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Japan

Foreign Minister States Remorse for War Suffering

OW0412063491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0622 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Washington, Dec. 3 KYODO—Japanese Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe expressed "deep remorse" for the suffering and sorrow inflicted by Japan during World War II, in an interview in Wednesday's edition of THE WASHINGTON POST.

In the daily's top story, made available late Tuesday, Watanabe also said it was a "reckless decision" of the Japanese to wage war with the United States.

The POST's Tokyo correspondent said "the most forceful statement of regret in years by the Japanese Government" and Watanabe's expression of Japan's gratitude for postwar assistance reflect "the extreme nervousness here about possible U.S. anger toward Japan during this week's remembrance of the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor."

Watanabe said in the interview that the Diet will "definitely" pass a formal resolution expressing regret to the U.S. and other nations Japan fought in the war. He also said Tokyo would not seek an apology from the U.S. for the atomic-bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

"This is the 50th anniversary of Pearl Harbor and we feel a deep remorse about the unbearable suffering and sorrow Japan inflicted on the American people and the peoples of Asia and the Pacific during the Pacific War," Watanabe told the POST.

He added that American help and friendship has been "the foundation for Japan's current prosperity" since the war, saying Japan was "lucky" to be occupied by the U.S. after the war.

Watanabe further noted that Japan "can't hold a candle" to the U.S. in technology, discoveries, and inventions.

Foreign Minister on Problems in Funding Collider

OW0412122391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1204 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 4 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe told U.S. Energy Secretary James Watkins on Wednesday that Japan would find it difficult to come up with the money to take part in the United States' superconducting super collider project.

Watkins is in Tokyo in part to solicit partners for the 8.25 billion dollar project in Texas.

Foreign Ministry officials quoted Watanabe as saying "domestic difficulties" would make a Japanese role difficult and saying the enormous amount of money needed for Japan to participate in the project would mean the budget for other basic science work would have to be slashed.

There is opposition to Japanese participation in the project from some quarters in the scientific community in this country, although there are also those who are enthusiastic about the project, he said.

Watanabe told Watkins that it will remain difficult for Japan to help fund the super collider as long as the significance of the project is not well-understood in Japan.

He suggested that the two countries continue considering what form and amount of Japanese cooperation would be most appropriate.

Watkins, who arrived in Tokyo on Tuesday for a four-day visit, was quoted as replying that an immediate Japanese contribution is not necessary at this point, but a general statement of Japan's intentions to cooperate would be welcome.

Watkins also met Wednesday with Kozo Watanabe, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Kanzo Tanigawa, director general of the Science and Technology Agency, and Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata.

The super collider is a high-energy physics project to probe the origins of matter by causing protons to collide at high speed in a 86.5 kilometer oval tunnel in Texas.

The United States estimates the project will cost 8.25 billion dollars, and wants Japan to pick up the lion's share of the 1.6 billion dollars it is soliciting from potential foreign partners.

Countries that have already indicated they will participate are India, the Soviet Union, South Korea, and Canada. The European Community has its own super collider project.

Hata was quoted as expressing reservations about Japanese involvement by saying Japan needs to improve its basic science work.

Officials said Watkins told Japanese officials that U.S. President George Bush will press for Japanese participation in the project when he comes to Japan early next month.

They said Watkins cast U.S.-Japan participation in the project in the framework of the "global partnership" called for by Bush.

NHK Hosts Debate on Rice Market, Tariffication

OW0312103791 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1030 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Editorial Report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 1030 GMT on 30 November carries a live 3-hour special program entitled "Emergency Discussion; Decision on 'Rice' Urged," presented in two parts. Participating in the program are Masami Tanabu, minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries; Motoji

Kondo, deputy chief cabinet secretary and former agriculture, forestry and fisheries minister; Mitsugu Horiuchi, chairman of the Federation of Agricultural Cooperative Associations' Central Council; author Hisashi Inoue; Tokyo University Professor Masaru Morishima; Masao Kojima, secretary of the Japanese Association of Corporate Executives; commentator Naoki Tanaka; NHK commentator Nakamura; and Yoshikazu Kano, director of the National Economic Research Institute's Research Association. NHK commentator Korehito Obama acts as moderator.

The first part of the program is entitled "What can we do about 'tariffication'?" The participants are seen seated on each side of Obama and two facing him, forming a semi-circle. The program starts with a report by NHK reporter Yuya Itano in Geneva, who explains the recent situation at the Uruguay Round negotiations and the contents of a proposal submitted by GATT Director Dunkel.

Following a brief explanation on the meaning of tariffication by NHK commentator Nakamura, Agriculture Minister Tanabu stresses the fact that Japan began increasing its imports "five years ago, and only Japan has promoted liberalization regardless of the Uruguay Round." He further says: "Another point is, as mentioned previously, that this distorted export subsidy is the biggest problem. I think it is unfair not to allow exceptional cases, like Japan's rationed goods, without abolishing the export subsidy. Another thing is that since all the countries have different problems, conclusions should be made without jeopardizing their minimum interests in order to settle it [the Uruguay Round] satisfactorily. This is our fundamental stance. Thus, we are insisting that exceptional measures should be imposed for the staple food."

Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Kondo points out that Japanese reporters' articles on the Uruguay Round are creating an impression at home that rice is no longer an economic issue, but a political problem. He adds: "It seems that we have reached a state where high-level political discussions need to be started. I have heard that [GATT] Director Dunkel has announced a plan to resume negotiations on the fifth of next month and to conclude them on 20 December."

The program then moves to a debate session. Author Inoue and Agricultural Cooperative Chairman Horiuchi, who oppose tariffication, and Commentator Tanaka and Corporate Executive Association Secretary Kojima, who support liberalization of the rice market, start the debate by explaining why they advocate their views. Horiuchi states: "I think that the GATT regulations are written in favor of the exporting countries. Thus, if their production of food or agricultural products drops significantly they do not have to export the goods. For example, Japan could not import soybeans in 1973 and prices rose rapidly. Because of that we had a difficult time. I think it is unreasonable to introduce tariffication despite the fact that we, or the importing country, want to become self-sufficient in food supply. I think that any country, developed or developing, has to maintain some extent of agriculture. It is a serious issue related to the existence of a nation or its people." An unidentified NHK announcer then questions rice farmers in Yamagata, who are participating in the debate through TV, what they think of the opinions of the advocates and of liberalization of the rice market itself. Similar questions are asked of a group of consumers in Osaka, who also participate in the debate through TV.

The program then shows a recorded interview with Yoshiro Mori, chairman of the Liberal Democratic Party's Policy Research Council, and Masaru Hayakawa, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Japan's Policy Research Council. Mori says: "Every country has something that has to be maintained. It is a different story if that something is a cancer that has a major impact on the world economy or on the world's agricultural production. However, the issue we are dealing with is not an issue of that nature; this is the point the government has to stress. But, we have to find a point of compromise." Hayakawa states: "Japan is the largest importing nation. Knowing that our self-sufficiency rate of grain is 30 percent, we cannot accept liberalization of the Japanese rice market."

Tokyo University Professor Morishima, by citing statistics, concludes that it is obvious that Japanese rice farmers will suffer grave damage and may even be forced to stop growing rice once liberalization is introduced. On the other hand, Research Director Kano explains that he is certain that Japanese rice can compete with foreign rice because Japanese are used to eating Japanese rice, which tastes different from rice grown in most other parts of the world except for California. He adds that "under the current international situation, it is inevitable to avoid liberalization of the rice market." The advocates who oppose tariffication or liberalization of the rice market reiterate such excuses as Japan's long traditions centered around rice growing. Other advocates, who are for liberalization, say farmers should realize that rice growing is an industry and they should make rice farming a strong and attractive industry rather then relying on the staple food control system.

After a 15-minute news break, the second portion of the program begins under the theme "What should be done for Japan's agriculture?" An unidentified NHK reporter states that the number of Japanese rice growers is rapidly decreasing and that only 1,800 new graduates became rice farmers last year. Both sides seem to agree that young people are not attracted to rice farming mainly because the level of income of rice farmers is low.

Asked to give his views on rice farming, Agriculture Minister Tanabu explains the need to improve the standard of living for farmers and says that he "will come up with a proposal by next spring" in order to make rice farming "attractive to young people." He stresses that "at this stage, we cannot accept tariffication, which is connected to liberalization. We are still negotiating."

Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Kondo also admits that the government has been too "slow in taking agricultural administrative measures."

NHK commentator Nakamura explains the significance of the government's rice control measures and the domestic rice distribution system. Most of the advocates, including rice producers in Yamagata, agree that the government's food control system is not good for the rice growers and that it should be revised. However, Agriculture Minister Tanabu says that the government has revised the staple food control system several times in the past and will "have to continue to amend it in order to meet the demands of the times." He also insists that the food control system is necessary in terms of protecting farmers. In this connection, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Kondo says: "I feel that an overall review is a shortcut and the best way to obtain people's understanding."

Moderator Obama asks the participants to comment on whether or not Japan's farming can become an independent industry and survive without the government's protective measures.

Inoue stresses that "the industrial market principles cannot be applied to agriculture," and "therefore, it is necessary to protect the rice farmers." Morishima says that Japanese rice growers cannot be independent forever if the food control system is abolished now. Kano urges the government to remove the Staple Food Control Act.

At the end of the program, the moderator asks each participant to make a short comment on what should be done with Japan's agriculture. Kano and others, who support liberalization, reiterate that the government's protective measures should be removed. Agriculture Minister Tanabu says: "I would like to ask farmers to continue their utmost effort for agricultural improvement. At the same time, I also would like to ask the consumer to recognize the farmers' efforts." Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Kondo states: "I would like to ask farmers to be optimistic, rather than see only the negative parts of agriculture. The government will also exert efforts to make farming villages beautiful places."

Upper House Begins Deliberations on UN Bill

OW0412021391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0121 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 4 KYODO—The House of Councillors on Wednesday started deliberations on a U.N. peacekeeping operation (PKO) cooperation bill following approval of the controversial measure Tuesday by the House of Representatives.

The PKO bill, which paves the way for limited overseas deployment of Self-Defense Forces (SDF) for U.N. peacekeeping operations, was adopted in the lower house with the support of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and the No. 2 opposition group Komeito.

The opposition camp holds a majority in the upper house, however, and the largest-opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP) and Japanese Communist Party have vowed to block passage of the bill, officials from both parties said.

Another opposition group, the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) will again demand a revision mandating that the Diet be required to renew its approval six months after SDF deployments, DSP officials said.

The current extraordinary Diet session is scheduled to end next Tuesday.

Although the LDP and Komeito intend to pass the bill, leadership of the two parties said they will not railroad the PKO bill through the upper house.

A lower house special committee railroaded the bill on November 27, triggering a four-day standoff before the lower house's plenary session finally adopted the measure Tuesday.

At Wednesday's plenary session of the House of Councillors, Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato explained the PKO bill while Tetsu Noda, SDP member of the upper house, clarified his party's counterproposal.

Representatives from the ruling and opposition parties were scheduled to ask questions about the bill during Wednesday's session.

Miyazawa Defends Peacekeeping Bill

OW0412063191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0614 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 4 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Wednesday the government's bill empowering Japan to send troops overseas to join peacekeeping operations does not contradict a 1954 Diet resolution banning overseas deployment of the Japanese military.

"When the House of Councillors approved (the 1954 resolution), I think legislators did not imagine a situation in which Japan would send peacekeeping forces whose members are selected from the Self-Defense Forces (SDF)," Miyazawa said in a speech to the upper house.

"The House of Councillors is empowered to decide whether the resolution is still valid or not," he said.

Miyazawa was speaking at a plenary session of the upper house in reply to questions from opposition Diet members, who said the resolution must be applied to kill the proposed legislation calling for Japan to send its troops abroad to join United Nations peacekeepers.

Miyazawa called for swift passage of the bill in the upper chamber of the Diet, where the ruling LDP [Liberal Democratic Party] had earlier managed to form a working majority with the opposition Komeito party, thereby ensuring the eventual passage of the bill.

He rejected opposition charges that the Japanese troops, once placed under the command of a U.N. field commander, could be ordered to open fire in violation of the Japanese Constitution, which bans the use of force to settle international disputes.

"Although U.N. rules allow the use of weapons to repel actions trying to block U.N. peacekeepers from carrying out their mission, the bill places stricter curbs on the use of weapons, as Japan worries about possibilities that-...may be plunged into an unexpected situation," he said.

The Social Democratic Party and the Japanese Communist Party have asserted that Japanese participation in U.N. peacekeeping forces would necessarily entail the use of firearms, as the U.N. commander could allegedly order Japanese peacekeepers to open fire in emergency situations.

Miyazawa said, "The authority of the United Nations has come to constitute the core of world peace by now. We heard arguments that the Japanese should contribute to the efforts of the United Nations," he said.

"This peacekeeping operations bill was sketched out in view of these arguments under our constitutional restraint banning the use of force," he said.

Japan, Miyazawa said, is faced with the need to explain the legislation to Asian neighbors who have voiced fears of the bill's reviving Japan's prewar nationalism "in view of the past historic developments."

"It is a fact that Japan inflicted grave damage on neighboring countries in the past wars. The government wants to prevent a recurrence of the wrongdoing," he said.

Chinese Vice Premier Tian Jiyun Continues Visit

Seeks Strengthened Technological Cooperation

OW0412042091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0405 GMT 04 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 4 KYODO—Visiting Chinese Vice Premier Tian Jiyun on Wednesday called on Japan to cooperate further with China in technological areas.

In a meeting with Takeshi Noda, state minister and director general of the Economic Planning Agency, Tian said that Sino- Japanese trade relations are going well, but China wants to strengthen cooperation in the field of technology.

Noda agreed, saying his agency plans to deepen bilateral relations by holding regular meetings with China's State Planning Commission and to create various cooperation ties using funds like Japan's overseas economic cooperation fund.

Tian arrived in Tokyo on Monday for a 10-day visit. After seeing government officials and other leaders, he will leave Osaka for home next Wednesday.

Meets LDP Secretary General

OW0412065491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0629 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 4 KYODO—Visiting Chinese Vice Premier Tian Jiyun and Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] Secretary General Tamisuke Watanuki agreed Wednesday that friendly relations between Japan and China were good for peace and stability in Asia.

During a meeting in the Diet building, Watanuki told Tian relations between the two countries are "extremely good," and added that in the interests of peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region, relations "must be expanded."

Tian told Watanuki, "the China-Japan relationship will not only contribute to Asia, but to the rest of the world."

Watanuki indicated he is keen to take up an invitation from Tian to visit China.

Earlier in the day, Tian, who heads a 15-member Chinese Government delegation, met with former prime minister Toshiki Kaifu at a Tokyo hotel.

Tian's visit is the first by a high-level Chinese Government delegation since Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa came to power in Japan in November.

Tian, who is one of three vice premiers serving under Prime Minister Li Peng, is in charge of China's external economic affairs, as well as agricultural matters.

He is in Japan at the invitation of the Foreign Ministry and the Japan-China Association on Economy and Trade, an organization affiliated with the Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

Tian arrived in Japan on Monday and will stay till December 11.

Urges Increased Investment, Trade

OW0412104591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1029 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 4 KYODO—Visiting Chinese Vice Premier Tian Jiyun urged Japan Wednesday to boost its economic cooperation with China to bring bilateral economic links to "a new dimension."

"Japan, as a highly developed nation, can more actively invest in, transfer technology to, and boost trade with China," Tian said in a speech to Japanese business people.

Tian was particularly keen for Japan to make technology transfers, urging the Tokyo government to relax its controls on technological supplies.

"China, with its vast and promising market, is the ideal place for Japan to transfer its technology," Tian said. "Closer technological ties are in the interests of both countries."

He said Beijing has already taken necessary steps to make it easier for foreigners to invest there, including strengthening protection of intellectual property rights and improvements in the investment environment.

Tian, whose portfolio includes external economic affairs and agriculture, said Japan's assistance is also sought in such areas as restructuring inefficient state-owned corporations and the development of an area in Shanghai where China plans to build a new high-tech economic zone.

He also called for direct foreign investment to streamline China's agriculture, energy, tranportation, and basic industries and to upgrade its infrastructure.

Tian, now in Japan at the invitation of the Foreign Ministry and the Japan-China Association on Economy and Trade, has met with Japan's foreign, finance, and trade ministers, and business leaders. Before winding up his 10-day visit on December 11, he will visit Osaka and Kyushu to meet political and business officials there.

Spokesman Hints Aid, E. Timor Incident Linkage

OW0312145391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1443 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—Japan may link its decisions on future economic aid to Indonesia with its assessment of Jakarta's investigation into its army's shooting of tens of civilians in East Timor last month, a Foreign Ministry spokesman suggested Tuesday.

"That is something...I do not deny the possibility of at this moment," Taizo Watanabe told foreign correspondents.

"We will certainly take into consideration the results of our own survey, together with the information in the Indonesian Government's survey, when and if we decide on this aid to Indonesia in the future," he added.

The spokesman hastened to add that he did not want his remarks to be taken by Indonesia as a "warning."

"We are open-minded about what kind of investigation result they may come up with and based on that we will decide on our own position (on the East Timor incident)," he said.

Indonesia is the largest beneficiary of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA), having received 867 million dollars worth in 1990 and a cumulative total over the years of some 7 billion dollars.

According to human rights activists and Western journalists, as many as 100 and more people were killed without provocation in the East Timorese capital of Dili on November 12 when army troops fired on a procession on its way to a cemetery to mourn the death of an independence sympathizer.

Jakarta, which has suggested the soldiers were provoked, sets the death toll at 19.

ODA Discussions Focus on New Budget Compilation

OW0212134091 Tokyo KYODO in English 1055 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 2 KYODO—Finance and Foreign Ministries were split over the size of Japan's external development aid for fiscal 1992 starting next April 1, government officials said Monday.

The officials cited a revenue shortfall caused by an economic slowdown, as they said the Finance Ministry is seeking to curtail expenditures for what is known as Official Development Aid (ODA).

The Foreign Ministry, which oversees ODA disbursements, has sought a 10.1 percent increase in the aid budget for fiscal 1992 on a general-account basis.

Ministry officials said an annual growth rate of 7 percent is necessary for Japan to live up to its pledge to defray 50 billion dollars in a five-year medium-term program which ends in fiscal 1992.

The government set aside a total of 1,529.5 billion yen for ODA in fiscal 1991, up 5.5 percent over the previous year. The sum included 883.1 billion yen appropriated from the general account, up 8.0 percent.

Japan has so far disbursed 27.3 billion dollars under the ODA program.

The Finance Ministry wants to decrease the ODA outlays, saying that this year's rise in the value of the Japanese yen against the U.S. dollar would boost the dollar-based ODA expenditures, the officials said.

They said the ministry is also offering to increase ODA appropriation in the next fiscal year under the investment and loan program.

NTT Contracts With U.S. To Build Satellites

OW0412095791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0855 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 4 KYODO—Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. said Wednesday it has decided to sign a contract with California-based Space Systems/Loral to build two telecommunications satellites.

The giant domestic communications company said it will sign a formal contract with the U.S. firm early next year.

The contract will call for the U.S. company to manufacture, launch, and place two satellites in geostationary orbit in operable condition over the equator in the Pacific in 1995, NTT said.

The first satellite, N-Star A, should be delivered by April 30, 1995, and the other, N-Star B, by October 31 the same year, the company said.

The two satellites will replace the Japanese-made CS-3A and CS-3B satellites currently used by NTT.

The company said Space Systems/Loral was chosen from among three U.S. bidders which participated in the tender held in September.

The company decided to procure satellites from U.S. suppliers under pressure from the United States to open Japan's satellite market to foreign firms.

The company said the N-Star satellites, each 27 meters long, including two extended solar panels and weighing two tons, will function for more than 10 years.

NTT President Masashi Kojima said Space Systems/Loral was selected on the basis of the price offered. He declined to disclose the amount beyond saying it was "tens of billions of yen."

Firm Claims 'Breakthrough' Energy Storage System

OW2911043191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0336 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 29 (KYODO)—Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. said Friday it has made a highly efficient superconducting coil that can store electric energy with very little energy loss.

The company said the achievement marks a breakthrough in the development of an energy storage system using superconducting materials, a next-generation device that could be used widely for industrial purposes in the next century.

Tests on the donut-shaped coil—which has a 78 centimeter outer diameter, a 20 centimeter inner diameter, and is 27 centimeters thick—showed it was superconductive for three hours continuously and lost only 0.01 percent of the stored electric energy, Mitsubishi said.

The experimental product, the result of joint efforts by Mitsubishi and Kansai Electric Power Co., will be tested further to gauge efficiency and energy storage capacity, Mitsubishi said.

Kuwait Signs Crude Oil Shipment Contract

OW0412010191 Tokyo KYODO in English 2344 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] London, Dec. 3 KYODO—The state-run Kuwait Petroleum Corp. (KPC) has signed a contract with Japan's Seibu Oil Co. to ship 20,000 barrels per day of crude oil next year, the official KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY reported Tuesday.

Monitored in London, the dispatch said the arrangement is the first Kuwaiti long-term crude oil contract since the end of the Persian Gulf War.

According to KPC, the national oil corporation have also reached similar agreements with Taiwanese and South Korean companies and formal contracts will be signed soon.

Isuzu To Supply Car Engines to German Automaker

OW0312060691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0501 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—Isuzu Motors Ltd. will supply car engines to the German automobile maker Opel as part of its revised business rehabilitation program, Isuzu President Kazuo Tobiyama said Tuesday.

General Motors Corp. (GM) of the United States, the top shareholder in Isuzu, also owns Opel.

Tobiyama told reporters that Isuzu, a medium-sized automaker currently in the red, will also increase auto parts shipments to GM and reorganize its lineup of truck models under the habilitation plans.

Isuzu expects to produce a profit in the year ending in October 1993 through those measures, Tobiyama said.

Wahei Seki, Isuzu vice president, will replace Tobiyama as president, subject to approval at meetings of shareholders and the board of directors in January, Tobiyama said.

Toyota Sets Up Two More Soviet Service Centers

OW0212141891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1144 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Nagoya, Dec. 2 KYODO—Toyota Motor Corp. has opened two service centers in the outskirts of Samarkand and Tashkent in the Soviet Union, company officials said Monday.

The plants add to the company's repair and check-up network for vehicles and spare parts sales in line with increasing automobile exports to the Soviet Union, the officials said.

Toyota already has three service bases in Moscow and Khabarovsk, they said.

The two new service centers will employ about 25 people, including maintenance workers, they said.

Toyota's vehicle exports to the Soviet Union, which amounted to 200 vehicles by the end of 1988, ballooned to 4,200 vehicles a year in 1990, the officials said.

The company also plans to open a total of 10 service plants in the Soviet Union, they said.

Labor Minister Proposes Loans for Foreigners

OW0312091691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0900 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—Labor Minister Tetsuo Kondo on Tuesday proposed the creation of a government loan system which would make money available at low interest to skilled foreign workers who wish to work in Japan.

At a news conference after a cabinet meeting, Kondo said the plan stems from the need to support developing countries by accepting and instructing their workers in Japan's high techonology.

Under Kondo's plan, the government would loan money at low interest to foreigners around age 20 who pass an examination and can demonstrate Japanese language ability.

Recipients would spend the first two years in Japan developing skills and repay loans during the next three years. They would be afforded the same wages and benefits as Japanese workers, he said.

Kondo said many foreigners are working in Japan illegally through middlemen who lend them money and then cut their wages.

He said Japan should not accept foreigners as cheap labor but should let them work fairly under proper conditions.

Panel Urges Expanded Training for Foreigners

OW0412054191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0522 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 4 KYODO—A government advisory panel subcommittee on Wednesday called for the establishment of an expanded skills training program for foreign workers, panel officials said.

Under the plan, employers would provide foreign workers with the same labor conditions as Japanese workers, the officials added.

The subcommittee on Japan in the international community, led by Kyocera Chairman Kazuo Inamori, submitted the second round report Wednesday to Eiji Suzuki, chairman of the ad hoc commission for the promotion of administrative reform.

Other parts of the report urged the government to review implementation of Official Development Assistance (ODA), to review administration of environmental preservation measures, and to promote international academic exchanges and cultural exchanges, the officials said.

The report stressed the necessity of improving the skills training system for foreign workers in order to enhance Japan's contribution to the international community and to protect foreign workers' human rights.

It proposed that foreign workers be granted the same labor conditions Japanese workers receive based on labor laws, provided that the non-Japanese workers acquire a certain skill standard under a minimum skill training system.

But the report suggested several conditions that are meant to prevent an unchecked flow of foreign workers, including a limit on the number of foreign trainees, limiting length of stay to two years, and regulations preventing workers from inviting their families to Japan.

The report also asked the government to provide more medical information for foreign residents in Japan.

The ad hoc commission is scheduled to submit the report next week to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

The report also urges the government to settle on a policy outline for official development assistance which would clarify a basic philosophy regarding aid as well as aid policy for specific regions.

Price Stabilization Focuses on Fruits, Vegetables

OW2911032991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0232 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 29 (KYODO)—The Economic Planning Agency [EPA] on Friday announced its usual year-end price-stabilization campaign, with the focus this year on curbing further rises in fresh vegetable and fruit prices that have been climbing since the typhoons caused widespread damage to crops.

Ministries, including the Ministry of International Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries, will be taking such measures as asking growers to adjust shipments nationwide, putting emergency imports on the market, and holding seminars to encourage consumers to buy less rare and expensive produce.

Prices of oranges, apples, cabbages, and carrots are among the produce expected to rise by more than 16 percent during December and January compared with the same period last year.

To deal with an expected flood of gift purchases in December, the government will ask department stores and chain stores to boost marketing of imported products.

Prices of kerosene and liquefied natural gas are expected to be stable due to strong inventories but monitoring of prices will continue as usual, the EPA officials said.

In anticipation of a year-end transportation rush, the government will ask railroad and ferry concerns to temporarily increase their transportation capabilities and ask deliverers who depend on trucks to send their products as early as possible.

Current Account Surplus Jumps 2.5-Fold in Oct

OW0412085891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0811 GMT 04 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 4 KYODO—Japan's current account surplus showed a continued sharp uptrend in October, according to statistics released by the Finance Ministry Wednesday and economists see no major downturn in the near future.

The ministry said that the surplus in October soared 149.9 percent from a year earlier to 6,732 million dollars, marking the seventh consecutive year-on-year upswing.

Within the current account, which comprises trade in goods and services, as well as investment income and government payments, the unadjusted trade surplus rose 73.2 percent to 10,110 million dollars.

Exports were up for the 17th consecutive month, expanding 6.2 percent to 27,704 million dollars, while imports fell for the seventh consecutive month, declining 13.1 percent to 17,594 million dollars.

An official of the Finance Ministry who briefed reporters said the trade surplus ballooned because of lower crude oil prices compared with 1990 prices, which depressed import values.

The average crude oil price during October was 19.72 dollars per barrel, down 35 percent from 30.34 dollars in October, 1990, the official said.

Excluding crude oil and other oil products, imports dropped only 2.7 percent, the official said.

Exports are showing signs of stabilizing after months of sharp increases, the official said.

Of the 4.3 billion dollars of the year-on-year increase in the trade surplus, the effect of price changes, such as declines in import prices and increases in exports prices, accounted for 4 billion dollars, the official said.

Masaru Takagi, chief economist at Fuji Research Institute, a research arm of Fuji Bank, said the unadjusted trade surplus will top 100 billion dollars in the current fiscal year, which ends March 31, 1992, and will remain almost unchanged in fiscal 1992.

He predicted imports will continue to be sluggish as the Japanese economy slows further in the next fiscal year.

"The trade surplus won't take a downturn unless the government mobilizes both fiscal and monetary measures to boost the domestic demand to incease imports and put a brake on companies' export drive," he said.

Takagi criticized Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno's recent remarks that the government should not try to boost domestic demand to reduce external surpluses.

Mieno said the current increases in external surpluses are mostly due to "special or temporary factors" such as declines in imports of gold or luxury products, falling crude oil prices, and the yen's appreciation, which has bloated dollar-denominated values of Japanese exports.

Although he said those factors had a role in the surplus, Takagi said the primary reason for the snowballing trade surplus is the slowdown of the Japanese economy, which he believes will continue until September 1992.

"We need larger fiscal spending and lower interest rates to provide a kick to the economy and put a lid on surpluses," he said.

Yoshihisa Kitai, a senior economist at the Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan, also took a dim view of Mieno's argument.

"It was the downtrend in the surplus in the past few years that was special and temporary," Kitai said.

"The current annual trade surplus of about 100 billion dollars is something that reflects Japan's competitiveness in the international market," he said.

But Kitai expressed doubt boosting domestic demand will lead to a reduction in the surpluses.

He said, "the trade surplus will never decline unless the yen rises very sharply against the dollar or trade friction leads to more political measures to depress it."

"The surplus at the current level is something that both Japan and its trade partners should learn to live with," he said.

Kitai also predicted the trade surplus will remain even next fiscal year, at the 100 billion dollars of this fiscal year.

Kitai said Japan should try to keep the yen on an uptrend and further open its markets, but he voiced skepticism that such steps will significantly cut the surplus.

"There is little that Japan can do, either fiscally or monetarily, to manipulate the surplus, which is after all only 1 to 2 percent of the nominal gross national product," he said.

Of other components of the current account, so-called invisible trade—transactions related to such areas as tourism, shipping, insurance, and commodity services—showed a deficit of 3,049 million dollars, compared with a deficit of 2,725 million dollars a year earlier.

Investment income also posted a deficit of 1,437 million dollars, reversing the recent surplus trend, due to active purchasing by Japanese investors of foreign bonds, the Finance Ministry briefer said.

Balance of Payments (in millions of dollars)

	Oct. '91	Oct. '90
Current Account	6,732	2,694
Trade	10,110	5,838
Exports	27,704	26,087
Imports	17,594	20,249
Invisible Trade	-3,049	-2,725
Transfer Payments	-329	-419
Long-Term Capital	-1,437	7,031
Basic Balance	5,295	9,725
Short-Term Capital	630	-4,259
Errors and Omissions	982	-5,937
Overall Balance	6,907	-471

Poll Shows Cabinet at 37-Percent Approval Rating

OW0412035891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0251 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 4 KYODO—The cabinet of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, one month old as of Wednesday, has almost equal approval and disapproval from the public, according to a poll conducted by a leading Japanese economic newspaper.

The NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN conducted the telephone poll over the weekend, asking 10,000 eligible voters nationwide about the current cabinet and other political issues.

The poll indicated 37.5 percent of the pollees support the Miyazawa cabinet, while 37.2 percent do not.

Many of those supporters answered they support the cabinet because it is "internationally minded," or simply because it is the cabinet of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP].

Those who said they do not support the cabinet, the reason cited was "lack of action," or distrust of the government body.

The newspaper said the approval rate is comparatively low considering the poll was done right after the cabinet was formed.

It said the approval rate was low partly because the cabinet was formed with strong determinations but has not done any specific job yet, and partly because the poll was conducted days before a controversial Diet committee vote on a United Nations peacekeeping cooperation bill.

Wide public criticism emerged after the LDP, combined with the second-largest opposition party Komeito, forced the bill through a House of Representatives special committee last Wednesday.

The bill, which would send the Self-Defense Forces personnel overseas to help U.N. peacekeeping operations, was adopted Tuesday in the lower house plenary session, and deliberations on the bill began Wednesday in the House of Councillors.

The poll shows 62.6 percent want legislators to deal with the bill carefully, 21.2 percent don't want them to pass the bill. Only 9.7 percent wanted a quick passage.

Regarding another controversial rice issue, 15.0 percent said Japan should lift its ban on rice imports completely, while 55.8 percent said the rice market should be partially opened to imports.

Another 22.4 percent favored Japan keeping the rice market closed, the poll indicated.

Mongolia

Official Announces Formation of New Party

LD0312124991 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1114 GMT 2 Dec 91

[By TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Poznakharev]

[Excerpts] Ulaanbaatar, 2 Dec (TASS)—"We announce the creation of a new Mongolian Revival Party based on the 'For Traditions and Renewal Within the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP]' faction," D. Lhagbaa, former member of the MPRP Central Committee and an initiator of the creation of the new party, stated today at a news conference in the press center of the Mongolian Ministry of Foreign Relations. [passage omitted]

Lhagbaa said the Mongolian Revival Party will be national and democratic by nature, and all its activities will be governed by this principle. The idea of national revival is paramount. We must ensure the economic independence of Mongolia, the former executive of the MPRP Central Committee, stressed. A committee of 15 people has already been set up to prepare and hold the party's constituent congress. Two platforms are being developed—a minimum one and a maximum one, respectively—for extricating themselves from the crisis and for a transfer to market relations. The new party renounces the theory, ideology, and organizational forms of the MPRP. However, it is in favor of cooperation with all parties, including the MPRP, for national revival. So far 300 former MPRP members have joined the new party. They are mainly representatives of the intelligentsia. Thus, a split in the governing Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party has become a reality.

North Korea

Official on Conditions for Signing Nuclear Accord

OW0312152991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1504 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 3 KYODO—North Korea is ready to ink a deal covering international inspection of its nuclear facilities in February 1992 if the United States pulls out nuclear weapons allegedly deployed in South Korea in a verifiable manner, a senior North Korean official said Tuesday.

Kim Pyong-hong, vice director of North Korea's Research Institute of Disarmament and Peace, made the comment in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE at a Tokyo hotel.

Kim is currently visiting Japan to attend a symposium organized by the city of Zushi, Kanagawa Prefecture. The institute is under the jurisdiction of the North Korean Foreign Ministry.

Kim said Pyongyang will meet mounting international calls to sign the Nuclear Safeguard Accord (NSA) next February at a meeting of the 35-member board of governors of the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The NSA is a follow-up accord to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty to which Pyongyang is already a signatory.

Signing the NSA accord obligates the signatory to open its nuclear facilities to inspection by an international team of nuclear inspectors with a view to verifying that the signatory is not using its nuclear reactors to produce weapons-grade nuclear material.

Pyongyang has strongly denied that it possesses either the desire or the facilities to produce nuclear weapons or material but has refused to open its nuclear facilities, including the Yongbyong Plant 88 kilometers north of the capital of Pyongyang, to international inspection without reciprocal moves on the part of South Korea and its ally the United States.

Kim said the United States must initiate the withdrawal of its nuclear weapons in an internationally verifiable manner. He said North Korea will not simply accept a possible assurance from Seoul that the U.S. has initiated or completed the withdrawal of its nuclear weapons from the Korean peninsula.

Kim said North Korea operates only nuclear research facilities and not nuclear weapons factories. Kim also said North Korea is eager to initiate dialogue with Washington to work out appropriate methods to carry out simultaneous checks of its nuclear facilities and U.S. nuclear weapons sites in South Korea.

He said Pyongyang wants to check "only U.S. military installations with nuclear weapons" in the South, rather than all U.S. military bases there, implicitly calling for the U.S. to specify which of its military bases harbor nuclear weapons.

Pyongyang would authorize participation by U.S. officials in the inspection team to visit North Korea if these conditions are met, he said.

Kim made these comments amid rising speculation that the U.S. and South Korea are planning to jointly announce—during a visit by President George Bush to Seoul next January—that the U.S. has completed the withdrawal of its nuclear weapons from South Korea.

Such a declaration would likely be unverifiable by the North.

Kim also said Pyongyang is ready to rescind one of three conditions it earlier put forward for initialling the NSA and opening its nuclear facilities to international checks. Kim said North Korea will no longer demand that the U.S. end protection of South Korea under its "nuclear umbrella" deterrent.

Kim said, however, the remaining two conditions—the withdrawal of U.S. nuclear weapons and checks of U.S. weapons sites in the South simultaneously with inspections in the North—are still valid and operational.

Envoy in Moscow Explains Ministry Statement

SK3011032191 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0900 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] A news conference at our embassy in the Soviet Union on the 25 November statement by our country's Foreign Ministry was held on 27 November. Reporters from Soviet newspapers, news agencies, and broadcasting stations and officials of the Soviet Ministry of External Relations attended the news conference. Son Song-pil, DPRK ambassador to the Soviet Union, spoke at the news conference.

Explaining the 25 November statement by our country's Foreign Ministry, he said:

Our government advanced reasonable proposals to remove U.S. nuclear weapons from South Korea, guarantee peace on the Korean peninsula, and turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone. We have consistently made efforts to implement these proposals. However, instead of withdrawing its nuclear weapons from South Korea, the United States has threatened and blackmailed us with nuclear weapons, systematically failed to fulfill its duties as a signatory of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT], and promoted an atmosphere for nuclear war on the Korean peninsula. Our country, a signatory of the NPT, has not opposed the signing of the nuclear safeguards accord and has made sincere efforts to sign it early. This issue has become complicated because the United States has not fulfilled its duties as stipulated by the NPT and has not accepted our just demand that it withdraw its nuclear weapons from South Korea and stop resorting to threats of nuclear war. If the United States had accepted our just demand from the first, the issue of our signing the nuclear safeguards accord would have been resolved and no problem would have been created. Whether the issue of our signing of the nuclear safeguards accord will be resolved smoothly at an early date wholly depends upon whether the United States fulfills its promise to withdraw nuclear weapons. We will sign the nuclear safeguards accord if the United States starts withdrawing its nuclear weapons from South Korea. We demand that talks be held with the United States to discuss an inspection to confirm if there are U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea, simultaneous inspection, and removing nuclear threats against us. Because North and South Korea have expressed their intention not to develop nuclear weapons and to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone, we think it necessary for the two sides to hold dialogue to implement this intention.

The ambassador answered reporters' questions at the news conference.

Daily Urges U.S. To Change Korean Policy

SK0412043191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0411 GMT 4 Dec 91

["United States Should Rectify Its Korea Policy"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang December 4 (KCNA)—Whether the United States rectifies its Korea policy or not is a touchstone that shows its stand and attitude towards peace.

The world is watching the stand and attitude of the United States.

NODONG SINMUN Tuesday said this in a by-lined article headlined "The United States Should Rectify Its Korea Policy".

The article went on:

The present reality makes it incumbent upon the United States to redress its outmoded Korea policy at an early date.

The United States should rectify its Korea policy, which is the unanimous demand of our nation who aspires after independence and reunification.

The United States should respect the desire of our nation for independence and reunification, give up its policy of occupation of South Korea and take hands of aggression and interference off Korea.

It is also the demand of the American people that the United States should rectify its Korea policy.

The United States has deployed its troops in South Korea for the purpose of provoking a new war of aggression in Korea.

If a war breaks out in Korea, the people of the United States will be saddled with heavier burdens than now and a large number of young men of the United States will lose their lives.

People, military experts, congressmen of the United States who know it well are opposed to the squandering of a large sum of funds for the maintenance of the U.S. troops in South Korea and are demanding the rectification of the administration's wrong Korea policy.

It is high time the U.S. authorities listened to the voice of their people demanding the rectification of Korea policy.

It is connected with the global trend toward disarmament and detente that the United States should redress its Korea policy.

What is important in realising disarmament and detente is to take practical measures in Korean peninsula where the danger of war is potential.

The United States should reexamine its Korea policy in keeping with the trend of the times and take a road helpful to the reunification of Korea.

If the United States does so, the Korean people and the people of the world will welcome it and a new phase will be opened in improving Korea-U.S. relations.

Envoy Pays Call on Cambodia's Hun Sen

SK0412130191 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] On 27 November, Kim Hyong-yul, our country's ambassador to the Cambodian Supreme National Council, made a courtesy visit to Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers and member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council.

At the meeting, the Council of Ministers chairman said that he wishes His Excellency Marshal Kim Il-song, the great leader of the DPRK people, and His Excellency dear leader Kim Chong-il long life and good health. Saying that he has not forgotten that His Excellency the great leader Marshal Kim Il-song paid a deep attention to him during his visit to the DPRK, he expressed deep thanks for this.

The talks were held in a friendly atmosphere.

Vice Premier Meets Heilongjiang Friendship Group

SK3011102091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0957 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] Pyongyang November 30 (KCNA)—Vice-Premier Kang Hui-won met and had a friendly conversation with the Heilongjiang Provincial Friendship Delegation of China led by He Shoulum, vice- chairman of the standing committee of the Heilongjiang Provincial People's Congress of China, at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on November 29.

Official Meets PRC Friendship Delegation

*SK0412004491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
2211 GMT 3 Dec 91*

[Text] Pyongyang December 3 (KCNA)—Gan Yetao, vice-president of the China-Korea Friendship Association, and his party arrived in Pyongyang today.

They were met at the Pyongyang railway station by Chon Yon-ok, vice-chairman of the Korean Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Korea-China Friendship Association, and Chinese Ambassador to Korea Zheng Yi.

Paper Views South's Trade Deficit

*SK2811052891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0457 GMT 28 Nov 91*

["Product of Anti-Popular Policy"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang November 28 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comments on South Korea's trade deficit running into 11,795 million dollars as of November 20 entering this year.

The widening trade gap and worsening economic chaos resulting from it in South Korea are attributable entirely to the flunkeyist, treacherous economic policy of the No Tae-u ruling group, the analyst says, and continues:

No Tae-u has opened the markets of agricultural and livestock products, bowing to the U.S. pressure for import liberalization. This has adversely affected trade and all the sectors of economy of South Korea. It is well known that the No group appreciated the dollar-won exchange rate ten percent above the standard. This step of the puppets led to higher export prices, causing marketing difficulties. Worse still, the puppets have lifted the liberalization rate of import up to more than 90 percent, allowing the inflow of the commodities of the United States, Japan and other countries.

They say that the South Korean economy will take a turn for the better. But it is nonsense. Only trade deficit and foreign debts are on the increase in South Korea.

With the stagnation of trade which they call the "lifeline" of the South Korean economy, many companies have given up export or gone bankrupt and many workers lost their jobs.

The puppets must bear responsibility for the economic catastrophe and the impoverishment of the people caused by their treacherous policy, the analyst stressed.

Meeting Marks 45th Anniversary of KCNA

*SK0412103791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1000 GMT 4 Dec 91*

[Text] Pyongyang December 4 (KCNA)—A meeting marking the 45th founding anniversary of the Korean Central News Agency [KCNA] (December 5, 1946) was held at the People's Palace of Culture on December 4.

Present at the meeting together with the staff of the KCNA were Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea; Chang Chol, vice-premier of the Administration Council, and other officials concerned; KCNA staff members and media men in Pyongyang.

Delegations of the Korean News Service of Chongnyon in Japan headed by its Director General Yi Hyong-ku and the U.S.-Korea News Service headed by its Director General Kim Un-ha were also present.

Kim Ki-yong, director general of the KCNA, delivered a report at the meeting.

The reporter said the past 45 years covered by the KCNA have been a brilliant annal decorated with undying leadership feats of the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il who gave origin to the revolutionary news service of new type of the working-class and unfolded a new history of great turn in information by indicating the road ahead of news service of chuche in each period and at each stage of the developing revolution.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song who authored the chuche- based idea and theory of information during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle and established the glorious revolutionary tradition of our news service founded the KCNA on December 5, 1946 shortly after liberation.

With the foundation of the KCNA our party and the government of the Republic came to have an official mouthpiece declaring their stand at home and abroad and one more mighty ideological weapon whereby to push ahead with the revolution and construction and established the integral system of our party's news media and guaranteed uniformity in information and propaganda activities and further strengthened the might as a whole.

The great leader energetically directed the work of the KCNA through on-the-spot guidance on several times and gave many highly important teachings.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il formulated from a new angle the idea and theory of information to meet the requirements of the new historical stage of our developing revolution in which the cause of modelling the whole of society on the chuche idea came to the fore and has wisely led our news service to take on a better appearance as the chuche-based one and showed great loving care and solicitude for the journalists, editors and employees.

The reporter pointed out that in the past period the KCNA under the wise guidance of the party and the leader has fulfilled its function and role with credit as the mouthpiece of the party and the government, a supplier of uniform information and helper in shaping the party policy.

The KCNA should further strengthen news service and propaganda for accelerating the modelling of the whole society on the chuche idea with redoubled efforts and achieving the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and global independence, stressed the reporter.

Three Principles of Reunification Viewed

SK0412045591 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0018 GMT 3 Dec 91

[NODONG SINMUN 3 December "special article": "Three Principles of the Fatherland's Reunification Are the Nation's Most Just Common Principle of Reunification"]

[Text] Reunifying the divided fatherland is our nation's biggest earnest desire and an urgent task that cannot be delayed even for a moment.

Our fellow countrymen in the North and the South and overseas are unanimously rising up in a struggle to achieve the historic cause of the fatherland's reunification. Achieving reunification in the nineties is our fellow countrymen's firm goal. The South Korean youth and students and people from all walks of life are boldly participating in the grand march for the fatherland's reunification even under grave circumstances in which the military fascists' guns and bayonets are rampant. This shows how ardent a desire our fellow countrymen have for the fatherland's reunification. We must fulfill the nation's ages-old desire in the nineties without fail by accelerating this grand march for the fatherland's reunification.

If we cannot reunify the fatherland, our nation, which was artificially divided by outside forces, will remain divided eternally and will not be able to prevent the nation's destiny from falling prey to the imperialist aggression forces.

The U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u ring, their cat's paws, have recently frantically maneuvered to freeze two Koreas by using the UN admission as an opportunity. As shown by the fact that they signed the aggressive and bellicose wartime host nations support agreement and that they babbled about so-called disciplinary action under the pretext of someone else's nuclear development, they also have frantically kicked up aggression and war maneuvers against our Republic. As a result, the danger of their antipeace, antireunification maneuvers is growing in reality.

We cannot tolerate the misfortune hovering over the nation. We must achieve the country's independent, peaceful reunification within a few years by any means and must hand a reunified fatherland over to our posterity. Our country's reunification must be achieved based upon the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The three principles of independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity are a basic principle of the fatherland's reunification that the government of our Republic has consistently adhered to and are the nation's common reunification principle that reflects all the Korean people's will.

The three principles of the fatherland's reunification call for independently, peacefully reunifying the country without depending upon or being interfered with by outside forces or resorting to force by promoting great national unity in which differences in ideas and systems are overcome. These principles declared by the great leader and expressed in the 4 July North-South joint statement are the nation's common just principle of reunification.

Our country's reunification is, by nature, is a matter concerning regaining the territory and people taken by the foreign imperialists, establishing national independence across the entire country, and achieving the divided nation's reunion. Therefore, the country's reunification is entirely the nation's internal matter concerning our nation's independence. The country's reunification, the nation's internal concern, must be achieved, as a matter of course, by the nation's independent force.

It is our nation that has a concern for solving the problem of the country's reunification. And, it is also our nation itself that is charged with solving this problem in reality. Our nation is fully capable of resolving the nation's internal issues. Then, if our nation tries to rely on outside forces in achieving reunification, an internal affair, without trying to solve this problem independently, the problem of the country's reunification cannot be solved correctly in compliance with the nation's will, earnest desire, and interests. One must not try to solve the problem of the country's reunification by relying on outside forces or allow outside forces to interfere in the problem of our country's reunification. No outside force has the right to interfere in Korea's internal affairs.

Also, the problem of the fatherland's reunification is not a matter of who wins and who loses or who swallows whom. Our fellow countrymen in the North and South are those of the same race who have lived happily in the same land, inheriting a single blood line and creating a national culture and history. Our fellow countrymen of this nature must not try to solve the problem—of ending the artificial division caused by outside forces and achieving great national unity—through fighting.

Of course, different ideas and systems exist in the North and South in reality. As a result, there are many differences and mutual misunderstanding and mistrust. However, this cannot serve as a reason for the two sides to be hostile to each other and confront and fight with each other.

Even though there are differences between the North and the South, they are differences in systems and not important compared to national homogeneity which has been formed and consolidated over thousands of years. Based upon national commonness which has persistently continued historically, the two systems can coexist in a reunified state and collaborate and be united with each other. If one side makes its idea and system absolute and tries to enforce them upon the other or to fight against the other, this will inevitably cause confrontation, conflicts, and fratricidal catastrophes.

If a war breaks out in our country, it will easily spread into a worldwide thermonuclear war, and, consequently, our land will turn into a wasteland, and our nation's existence will be threatened seriously. Then, who will enjoy reunification in this land where there will be no fellow countrymen? No matter how urgent our country's reunification may be, one must not try to achieve it through war in which force is used, but through peaceful means.

Great national unity must be achieved to independently, peacefully achieve our country's reunification. Great national unity is a basic precondition and an essential element for the fatherland's independent, peaceful reunification. Even though different ideas and systems exist in the North and the South, they cannot be seen as a factor that hinders great national unity. Under circumstances in which countries that have different ideas and systems establish friendly relations and are on good terms, those of the same nation have no reason not to be united or to fight.

Truly, the three principles of achieving reunification independently without outside forces' intervention, peacefully without force, and by promoting great national unity after transcending differences in ideas and systems show ways to solve the problem of the country's reunification. The three principles for the fatherland's reunification, which were agreed on and made public by the North and South, are the nation's common milestone and principle of reunification which will help reunify the country in compliance with all the fellow countrymen's will, earnest desire, and interest. Therefore, since these principles were made public, people and social circles at home and abroad have wholeheartedly sympathized with and supported them. And, they have become the nation's common reunification program amid the fellow countrymen's positive support and approval.

The North and South must always rely on these three principles of the fatherland's reunification in solving the problem of the country's reunification. We are making every sincere effort to solve the problem of the country's reunification based upon the three principles of the fatherland's reunification. Such an effort by us is fully reflected by our reasonable and just proposal for achieving reunification under a confederal system.

However, the South Korean authorities have systematically violated the three principles and deliberately created difficulties and complexities in the solution of the problem by bringing forward the insensible argument of principle, that is, the three principles laid down by the South Korean authorities at the past fourth North- South high-level talks. This is a very irrational behavior.

The South Korean authorities babble about so-called principle after putting aside the three principles of the fatherland's reunification which the North and South have agreed on. This in itself is preposterous.

The South Korean authorities' so-called three principles are unreasonable and not worth discussion either in view of the timing or their content. Also, the principles cannot be seen as proceeding from a sincere stand and attitude to solve the problem of reunifying the country.

If the South Korean authorities truly intend to solve the problem of the country's reunification in compliance with the nation's will and interests, they should strictly observe the three already agreed upon and proclaimed-principles of the fatherland's reunification instead of laying obstacles in the solution of the reunification problem by bringing forward nonsensical principles.

Respecting and implementing the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity is a starting point toward solving the problem of reunifying the fatherland.

* Socialist Financial Administration Viewed

922C0008A Pyongyang MINJU CHOSON in Korean 13 Sep 91 p 2

[Article by Choe Chong-hon: "Thoroughly Implementing the Principle of Financial Management Is the Important Task To Enhance the Role and Function of Socialist Finance"]

[Text] Socialist financial administration occupies a very important place in managing the nation's entire housekeeping, which is directed at guaranteeing the independent and creative life of the working masses. The more socialist construction progresses, the greater its role becomes. In order to continue developing a socialist economy and speed up that development to meet the demands of the socialist grand march movement, we must increase the function and role of socialist financial management. The important thing here is to adhere thorougly to financial management principles.

The dear Comrade Kim Chong-il pointed out as follows:

"In order for socialist financial administration to satisfactorily accomplish its function and role, we must adhere thoroughly to financial management principles."

In essence, socialist state financial administration is the use of the money earned by the people for the people. Socialist financial administration reflects in the form of currency the relationships between the utilization of material wealth created by the working masses and fulfilment of their own needs and interests.

Socialist financial management must be managed so as to suit the intrinsic needs of a socialist society.

Financial administration in the exploitative society, where the means of production are privately owned, is managed on the basis of individualism, because of the intrinsic nature of the society. It is a method for the domination and wealth acquisition of an extremely small exploiting class. In a socialist society, however, the working masses are the ones who have state sovereignty and who own the means of production. The working masses are the creators of material wealth and the ones who enjoy the material wealth. Financial administration is of the people for the working masses. The socialist state, which assumes overall responsibility for the nation's entire housekeeping and the people's livelihood, holds a large portion of the total social output and the national income and utilizes it to advance the welfare of the people. Accordingly, financial administration in the socialist society is managed on the basis of collectivism, and the masses must be the masters who provide and manage the financial resources.

To manage socialist finances so as to meet the intrinsic demands of a socialist society is an important problem for protecting the revolutionary and people-oriented accomplishments of socialist finances.

In a socialist society, in which the masses are the masters of everything and everything serves the people, the country's financial resources are provided by the creative labor of the workers, and the money earned by the masses is completely their own. In a socialist society financial administration is managed on the basis of collectivism so as to meet the demands and interests of the working masses. Utilizing the country's finances to continuously raise the people's prosperity and their independent and creative livelihood is the revolutionary and people-oriented character of socialist finances. Therefore, only by managing socialist finances so as to meet the intrinsic demands of a socialist society is it possible to financially guarantee the party's economic policy implementation, continuously develop productivity, and further raise the people's standard of living.

To manage socialist finances so as to meet the intrinsic demands of a socialist society is an important problem in order for the financial administration to fully carry out its mission and role.

Socialist finance is the standard of the nation's housekeeping. The socialist economy controls and organizes the nation's overall housekeeping through the receipt of revenue and disbursement of cash funds and carries out its mission of controlling its implementation.

By performing its function of grasping the gross social product and national income, both sources of the nation's housekeeping, and distributing and redistributing it to all sectors of the national economy, socialist financial administration guarantees the funds necessary to advance the country's economic construction and raise the people's standard of living. Also, by carrying out its function of financial regulation of the entire range of management activities of state organs and enterprises, socialist financial administration ensures that cash funds are spent to meet the demands and interests of the people and to contribute greatly to reducing social labor expenditures in all sectors, organs, and enterprises of the national economy and to increase savings. Consequently, only by managing socialist finances to suit the intrinsic demands of a socialist society is it possible to enhance the function and role of financial administration and vigorously accelerate socialist economic construction suitable for advancing revolution and construction, further strengthening the country's economic might.

Today we are faced with the important task of placing the precedent sectors of the people's economy firmly in the forefront, effectively utilizing the economic foundation already provided, normalizing production at a high level, and further raising the people's material and cultural living standard. In order to successfully accomplish the great task of socialist economic construction facing us, we must enhance more than ever before the function and role of socialist financial administration. To do this we must continuously improve financial management to meet the requirements of the developing reality.

Thoroughly adhering to the principles of financial management consistent with the intrinsic demands of a socialist society is a key problem for satisfactorily performing the role and function of socialist financial administration.

Thoroughly embodying the lines and policies of the party is an important principle that must be consistently adhered to in socialist financial management.

Our party's lines and policies are the sole standard upon which we must always base our management of socialist finances. The objective of managing socialist finances lies in wanting to thoroughly implement the lines and policies of the party. The party's lines and policies clearly spell out the entire range of principled problems that must be adhered to in financial management and the directions and methods of financial work. Thoroughly embodying the party's lines and policies in financial management is an important requirement for finances to become genuinely people-oriented for the working masses.

The superiority of the socialist financial system lies in its being the genuine financial system of the people. The party's lines and policies clarify the real path that enables socialist finances to be the people's finances. Therefore, only by thoroughly implementing the party's lines and policies is it possible for the broad masses to participate actively in the worthwhile struggle to provide the country's financial resources and to enhance their voluntary enthusiasm and creativity and continuously expand financial resources. Also, this enables the enhancement of the role of the masses as the masters of financial management and the effective utilization of financial resources in the country's housekeeping. Thus, it is possible to further enhance the role of social finances as a financial system for the working masses.

Thoroughly implementing the party's lines and policies in financial management is an important demand for satisfactorily carrying out all economic activities without the slightest deflection.

Financial management is achieved through the financial activities of the functionaries. Therefore, in order to manage well, functionaries must satisfactorily carry out financial activities. Our party's policies elucidate the directions and procedures of socialist financial management systems and the order and methods of financial activities. Therefore, when financial activities embody the party's lines and policies they can be carried out so as to suit the intention of the party, and socialist financial administration can be managed in consonance with that objective. When the state budget is correctly executed and the independent economic accounting system is properly instituted and the matter of firmly carrying out the country's money circulation is performed on the basis of party policy, economic activities can be satisfactorily achieved.

If we want to thoroughly embody the party's lines and policies in socialist financial management, the financial and banking functionaries must be faithful to the party's leadership and must make the party's lines and policies their guide in carrying out their work. Also, they must set up the revolutionary ethic of unconditionally accepting the party's financial policies, carrying them out to the end, and demonstrating high revolutionary spirit, party spirit, working class spirit, and people spirit in financial management.

An important principle in socialist financial management is to manage finances unitarily.

Managing finance unitarily means managing finances under the unified guidance and control of the state. In other words, it means taking control of all the funds of the state in a unified manner and forming, distributing, and utilizing them in accordance with the state's laws and regulations and the unitary state plan and standards.

Unitarily managing finances is an intrinsic requirement of a socialist society. In a socialist society, the means of production are owned by society, and the scale of the economy is large and the level of technology and equipment is very high. In a socialist society all sectors and all units of the people's economy are intimately interlinked and form a single organic unity. Consequently, if we want to develop the socialist economy, we must manage and operate the country's economy in a planned manner and be frugal with the nation's housekeeping. This requires that we take control of the state's funds in a unified manner and manage them in a unitary way. Only by managing finances in a unitary fashion is it possible to use finances to suit its objectives and uses and to get rid of waste and negative phenomena. In this way, it is possible to frugally manage the nation's housekeeping and guarantee the economy's planned, balanced development.

In order to expand financial budget revenues and to make sure they are used effectively, it is important to demonstrate the initiative of individual units in financial management. If individual units manage finances on a unitary basis while unitary management principles strengthen the state's unified guidance and control, it is possible for rural areas and organs and enterprises to have a master-like attitude toward the nation's housekeeping and to responsibly and spontaneously carry out financial management, make big profits for the state, and frugally manage the housekeeping of their own units.

Today, the country's financial resources are being used effectively in the tremendous work directed toward the prosperity of the fatherland and the happiness of generations yet to come. This is the result of thoroughly implementing the principle of socialist financial management concerning managing finances unitarily.

Managing finances in a planned manner is an important principle that must be adhered to in socialist financial management.

The socialist economy is a planned economy. To manage, operate, and develop the people's economy in a planned manner is the characteristic of the socialist economy. Inasmuch as the socialist economy is a planned economy, it is fitting that the finances that reflect it comprehensively must also be managed in a planned manner. The large-scale socialist economy cannot be operated and managed correctly apart from the principles of planned financial management, nor is it possible to achieve a continuous, high economic development speed.

If we want to manage socialist finances in a planned manner, we must establish the strong discipline of setting up the state budget and all other financial plans and mesh them together with the people's economic plan and carrying it out without fail. The people's economic plan is the basis of the financial plan, and the financial plan, as a guarantee plan, serves the people's economic plan. Consequently, only by setting up the state budget and the financial plans of organs and enterprises and meshing them in detail with the people's economic plan, is it possible to guarantee realistic and scientific results in the financial plan and to guarantee that it is a positive and mobilized plan.

We must firmly grasp planned financial management principles in all sectors and all units of the people's economy. The entire process of setting up and carrying out financial plans must become a process of properly setting up the state plan, and regulating and expediting it so that it is thoroughly accomplished.

By thoroughly implementing the financial management principles of chuche, state economic organ functionaries and financial and banking functionaries must further enhance the function and role of socialist finances and vigorously inspire socialist economic construction.

KCNA Reviews 4 Dec Pyongyang Press

SK0412050891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang December 4 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today gives an account of a seminar on "Let Us Achieve the Great Unity of Our Nation," an immortal classical work of the great leader President Kim Il-song, held in Uganda.

The paper reports that a Korean documentary film "The Great Leader Comrade Kim Il-song Pays a Visit to China" was screened in Guyana.

Conveyed in the paper are words of South Korean people highly praising President Kim Il-song as a great statesman.

The paper also conveys words of a Japanese ornithologists' delegation praising President Kim Il-song as the great leader respected by the world people.

A seminar on "Let Us March Forward Dynamically Along the Road of Socialism and Communism Under the Unfurled Banner of the Anti-Imperialist Struggle," a work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, was held in India, reports the paper.

It carries an article about the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il in realizing the tramway project in the capital.

Econews of the press includes reports about the vigorous acceleration of the first-stage construction of the fertilizer plant of the Sunchon Vinalon Complex and the northern railways electrification and about meetings for year-end account settlement and income distribution held in rural communities and other dispatches from different fields of the national economy.

Included in the South Korean news of the press are reports that some 1,000 people of Kochang, North Cholla Province, staged a demonstration against the installment of a nuclear dumping place, and HANGYORE SINMUN exposed the authorities' violation of human rights.

An article of NODONG SINMUN demands that the "wartime support agreement," a document of war signed by the United States and the South Korean authorities, be scrapped unconditionally.

Conveyed in papers are world public voices demanding simultaneous nuclear inspection of the North and the South of the Korean peninsula.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that foreign media issued articles demanding the repatriation of old man Yi In-mo.

Conveyed in the paper is what foreigners said about the successful building of socialism in Korea.

According to the daily, the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League of China released a notice on widely organizing "youth shock brigades", and the working people of China are achieving successes in socialist economic construction, and the prime minister of India referred to the importance of cooperation among the developing countries.

The director of the Institute of the Oriental Studies of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR talked about the Korean reunification question, the Aomori Prefectural Assemblymen's League for Japan-DPRK friendship was formed and the U.N. Security Council adopted a resolution on peacekeeping operation in Yugoslavia, the press reports.

NODONG SINMUN in an article says that the U.S. "bipartisan system" is a political mode aimed to cover up the extremely reactionary bourgeois dictatorship.

South Korea

Seoul To Ask IAEA To Withhold Aid to North

SK0412123491 Seoul YONHAP in English 1152 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Vienna, Dec. 4 (YONHAP)—South Korea plans to urge the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to stop cooperating with, and supporting, North Korea in nuclear technology, officials at the South Korean Embassy here said Wednesday.

The government plans to request the IAEA Board of Governors' meeting to open here Thursday [5 December] to adopt such sanctions against North Korea in an effort to pressurize it into signing the nuclear safeguards agreement and accepting international inspections of its nuclear facilities, they said.

The IAEA has a plan to provide North Korea with 314,000 U.S. dollars next year in aids to fund five projects, including uranium ore exploitation, cyclotrone and industrial use of radioactive ray and radioactive isotopes, according to the officials.

The South Korean Government will ask the IAEA to suspend the plan on the ground that technology support to a problem-causing country like North Korea, which refuses to sign the safeguards agreement, runs counter to the principle of peaceful use of atomic energy.

The South Korean position is positively supported by many advanced countries, including the United States, the Soviet Union, Japan, and Canada, they said.

Under regulations, the agency can stop and retrieve technology and material supports when the beneficiary-nation turns out to be unfaithful to its duty to accept outside inspections.

Ties With Independent Soviet Republics Planned

SK0312130891 Seoul YONHAP in English 1242 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 3 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government, apparently stimulated by Ukraine's independence from Moscow, has decided to strengthen efforts to promote bilateral cooperative relations with each of major Soviet republics.

A senior government official said Tuesday, "Our diplomatic policy has not changed but we feel the need to get ready to react accordingly in case the Soviet republics should declare their independence one after another."

The government will maintain existing relations with the Soviet Union on the one hand and study multifarious initiatives aimed at promoting bilateral relations with the Russian Federation, Ukraine and other major Soviet republics on the practical level on the other, he said.

ROK To Enter Soviet Construction Market

SK3011024591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0130 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 30 (YONHAP)—South Korea will seek to advance into the Soviet construction market jointly with Hungary and Finland, which are experienced there, Construction Ministry officials said Saturday.

Construction Minister Yi Chin-sol would visit Finland and Hungary from Dec. 2 and sign memorandums of understanding with the two governments, they said.

The memorandums will provide joint participation of Korean and Finnish, and Korean and Hungarian enterprises in the Soviet Union and other countries, exchange of construction information, technologies and research results, and seminars and personnel exchange.

The Soviet Union is expected to become the world's biggest construction market in the 2000s with all its investment in infrastructure.

Yi will visit Indonesia on his way home to discuss Korea's participation in construction projects in the Southeast Asian country. The two governments will exchange a memorandum of understanding on Korea's technological support for construction of a road along Lake Toba during his visit.

Bank Reimburses Firms for Loans to USSR

SK0412023391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0204 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 4 (YONHAP)—The Finance Ministry said Wednesday that the Export-Import Bank of Korea had paid Samsung Co. 13.4 million U.S. dollars on Monday in the first reimbursement for tied-loan exports to the Soviet Union.

Korean firms have shipped 115 million dollars of 11 goods to the Soviet Union since late October and received 297 million dollars of letters of credit, a yardstick for exports in two or three months.

Contracts for tied-loan exports currently total 527 million dollars for 32 items, and the Export-Import Bank has approved 443 million dollars involving 92 projects in financial aid to exporters.

Seoul promised Moscow cash loans of 1 billion dollars and tied loans of 800 million dollars this year.

Despite smooth progress in the tied-loan exports to date, the implementation for next year is subject to study, a ministry official said. A cash loan of 500 million dollars and tied loan of 200 million dollars are scheduled for next year.

* Relations With China Show Improvement

* Trade Volume Increasing

922C0035A Seoul HANGUK KYONGJE SINMUN in Korean 21 Oct 91 p 10

[By special correspondent Yi Pyong-kuk: "Sudden Increase in ROK-Chinese Trade"]

[Text] The 20th of this month is the one year anniversary of the establishment of the mutual trade agreement and the exchange of trade representatives between China and South Korea.

A South Korean envoy from the Korea Trade Promotion Corporation (KOTRA) and a representative from the China Chamber of International Commerce (CCOIC) signed an agreement that established mutual trade between Beijing and Seoul, opened the way for an exchange of private economic organizations and identified the individuals from KOTRA who would reside in Beijing and from the CCOIC who would be stationed in Seoul.

We will review the past year and look closely at the future of these representatives.

"Now it is not impractical to make overtures related to China. We have, at least, accomplished a mutual understanding in terms of economics and the role of the portal (between the two countries). It is true that the South

Korean Government has made some impractical proposals in order to better understand China before the positions of the two trade representatives were established."

This comment was made by one of the trade representatives. He went on to add that the one year anniversary is important to both sides since it celebrates the beginning of relations between the two countries.

On the 30th of January the trade officials began work by hanging their official placard at the Beijing International Trade Center in China.

There was a brief delay in the start of official work while the arrangement committee discussed a written agreement that would outline and document the provisions of each office.

The creation of trade representatives does not establish an official diplomatic relationship between South Korea and China, but it does create the possibility of a new level of interaction between the two countries.

Previously, trade and commercial activities took place on an informal basis, but now the relationship is officially recognized and it is possible for each country to obtain information on the other's businesses.

Twenty South Korean general trading and commercial companies have offices in Beijing on an official or unofficial basis and have made inroads into Dalian, Shanghai and Qingdao. The number of economic and human exchanges has also increased.

Last year, trade between South Korea and China accounted for 38.5 billion dollars, but this number is expected to increase to $45-50 billion this year, and South Korean investment has shown a significant increase compared to the last two to three years.

There has also been an increase in the number of human exchanges as well.

Unofficial estimates are that during the first half of this year there were over 50,000 visits between Cho Sun groups in China and their relatives in South Korea.

This number is a remarkable increase over the 58,000 total that visited during all of last year.

There has been positive action between both countries to repeal differential duties and establish contract agreements, and an agreement could be reached as early as this year. Private-level meetings began last August and a second meeting is due to be held in Seoul.

In addition, it is known that both China and Korea are seeking a consensus in order to establish airline routes necessary for an increase in the level of citizen exchanges.

The interchange of trade representatives has provided a stepstone to the establishment of an official relationship between South Korea and China. Both countries will have to clarify the responsibilities and roles of each trade representative in order to increase the level of their activities.

One significant question that remains to be answered is what limitations will there be on private-level contacts? Currently, it is difficult to distinguish between government and private level contacts since private meetings are always concerned with economic and political issues.

Trade representatives who meet with government officials treat meetings as though low level which results in a "mental barrier" to the success of these meetings.

There is a rumor that some people associated with the Korean and Chinese trade representatives feel that "there is not as much effort being expended as was expected" because they believe that the activities of private-level economic trade representatives are being restricted.

One problem that must be resolved is the difficulty involved with commercial visits under current customs laws. Through mutual efforts there is a possibility that tourist entry laws can be simplified to encourage the exchange of visiting citizen groups, even though the countries do not have an official diplomatic relationship.

Experts have said that the time is gone when either side can unilaterally improve relations between the two countries.

South Korea needs China as a market for its plentiful resources and potential supplies of energy, and China needs access to Korea's export market and ability to effect international political change. Attention is already being drawn to the fact that both countries are ranked 5th and 6th in terms of trade and that they are competing with each other.

Experts have said that South Korea continues to attempt to fully understand China and its domestic market. It is not enough to observe and study China from Beijing.

The number of business offices will have to be increased incrementally to include Shanghai and Dalian, or any other areas necessary, not just Beijing. This will make China's diversity and economic potential immediately obvious.

The relationship between South Korea and China is not friendly, but they are clearly at a turning point. South Korean policy toward China has been changing and China has turned away from North Korea in order to pursue a better, more realistic path that will in turn benefit the country. North-South Korean membership to the United Nations has opened wide possibilities in China.

Experts maintain that the current climate is good for improving the relationship between South Korea and China.

* Friendship Stressed

922C0035A Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean
19 Oct 91 p 3

[By former U.S. Ambassador Kim Kyong-won: "ROK-Chinese Relation and the Future of China"]

[Text] Kim Il-sung returned to Pyongyang after visiting China for a long period of time, from 4-16 October. What subjects did Kim Il-song and the leader of China discuss? What did Kim Il-song want, and what did he get?

Unexpectedly, the author visited China during the same time Kim Il-song was there and he was able to talk to many people in different areas of politics and education. He could not determine what topics Kim Il-song and the leader of China discussed, however. The author met several individuals and discussed the possibility of various ideas, but like Western newspaper reports the information is not clear and may be inaccurate. For example, China promised to provide a certain amount of economic aid to North Korea and that it would not establish formal relations with South Korea, but this is only a guess and is not precise.

There is a greater level of focus on the fact that regardless of what the leader of China promised Kim Il-song, it will not effect the relationship between China and South Korea in the future, however. China and South Korea's official diplomatic relationship may be one part of the reason for the visit, but it is not the sole cause of the visit. The way in which the relationship between China and South Korea develops is dependent on China and how it changes its policy. Therefore what China promised Kim Il-song is not important. What is important is the pace, methods and stages of the "liberalization and reformation" policy China is now attempting to implement.

China claims that it has chosen its own way of developing socialism. China did not stand for its special form of socialism before the collapse of socialism in other countries. Rather, China emphasized the universality of socialism and helped promote communist revolutions in areas of Southeast Asia. China has maintained its Chinese form of socialism because it does not want to suffer the same fate of socialist countries in Europe and the Soviet Union.

China has not changed its basic policies. China has not given up the policy of "liberalization and reformation" and has continued to make progress in modernization over the past 10 years under the leadership of Deng Xiaoping.

During the past several years there has been doubt that China would reverse the policy of "liberalization and reformation" because of continued high inflation, the retrenchment policy, the incident in June 1990 and the policy of restrained management. The author believes that the leader of China thinks that the only way to solve socialism's current crisis is to continue to make progress in "liberalization and reformation."

The problem is not that China will intentionally give up on reformation, the question is how far will the government allow reformation to progress?

Communist China's Central Committee recently held a meeting to hear the opinions of non-communists on how the inefficiency of government run large and medium-sized enterprises could be remedied.

It is obvious that China's leader is concerned about the plague of inefficiency in government enterprises. It is not clear whether the Chinese Government is willing to remove price controls and open the market in order to solve this problem, however. The leaders in China are aware of what is blocking economic improvements and what needs to be done to reform the system, but in order to solve this dilemma they will be forced to abandon the socialist economic framework, and it seems that they can not simply reorganize their system.

China's agony did not start today or yesterday. During the middle of the 19th century the Chinese began thinking of reform when they encountered Western powers. They believed that in order to make China strong they would develop a "Chinese system with Western methods" by maintaining the Chinese framework and learning Western skills and methods. Maintaining its basic system and only reforming its skills and methods has proven to be China's agony, however. The relaxation of price controls is one such method, but it is also a hazard since it effects the way the government functions and its power base. The main question that China now faces is what kind of society does it want in the future, and this in turn provides a political and philosophic puzzle over what methodology to use to achieve this goal.

The leader of China cannot put into order the elements of this political and philosophical problem and this is a limitation of a policy of reformation.

The citizens of China do not suffer this same type of agony. Their minds are occupied with the hope that they will "live a better life than they have now." If they can improve the quality of their lives, they will not care about political conflicts. Chinese citizens, especially the youth and intellectual groups, are not interested in protecting a system and ideology that obstructs human freedoms and economic improvements. Therefore, if the long term view is considered, its seems as though China's future has already been decided. It is only a question of time before China's society is improved by economic and political freedom.

Of course, China still has a long and difficult road to travel. There are a number of difficult questions which must be answered, such as who will take power, what direction the military will take and what China's relationship with the West will be like. History will not turn its back on the Chinese people, however.

Consequently, the most important thing that we can do is impress them with our friendship and goodwill. It is important for us to maintain an official relationship with China. But, it is more important for us to develop a friendship with the Chinese people. There are countries that are distrustful of each other and confrontational even though they have an official diplomatic relationship, but there are also those countries whose citizens truly enjoy friendly relations and the diplomatic relationship is only a formality. In this regard it seems that this time Kim Il-song returned home without getting what he wanted from his visit to China. This allows us to see the attitude of the citizens of China.

Consulate in Hong Kong To Remain After 1997

SK0312021291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0038 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 3 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea plans to keep its consulate-general in Hong Kong open after the British colony is returned to China in 1997, the Foreign Ministry said Tuesday.

Seoul and Beijing have been discussing the post-1997 status of the consulate-general and Korean companies in Hong Kong, ministry officials said.

The topic was briefly covered when the foreign ministers of the two nations met last month in Seoul during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), the officials said.

"It is understood between Seoul and Beijing that South Korea will keep its ties with Hong Kong after the British colony reverts to China," an official said. "There is no need to exchange a separate memorandum of understanding on this matter."

There are some 130 locally incorporated Korean firms in Hong Kong, and bilateral trade was 4.39 billion U.S. dollars last year.

South To Support Tumen Project at N-S Talks

SK0412025391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0236 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 4 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea will express full support for North Korea's Tumen River and special economic zone development plans and encourage inter-Korean cooperation in the projects at the next prime ministers' talks, officials said Wednesday.

Seoul will repeat its past proposals for direct trade, joint investment, natural resource development and tourism projects in the 5th inter-Korean talks here Dec. 9-13.

In addition, Seoul will pledge full support for North Korea's plans to establish a special economic zone in Sunbong near the Tumen River over similar proposals by China and the Soviet Union, the officials said.

The Tumen estuary, bordering North Korea, China and the Soviet Union, is tapped as the possible site of an international trade center.

A meeting sponsored by the U.N. Development Program is scheduled in Seoul Jan. 30-31 to discuss the Tumen River development project. It will be attended by the two Koreas, Japan, China and the Soviet Union, each of which have a different proposal.

South Korea will support the North Korean proposal and urge inter-Korean cooperation, the officials said.

Seoul's offers include establishing a South-North Korean joint manufacturing complex for textiles, footwear and home appliances with a combination of South Korean capital and North Korean labor.

Seoul also wants to participate in Siberian natural resource development with North Korea and link Mt. Kumkang in the North with Mt. Sorak in the South for an international tourist resort.

South Korea will repeat its demand that the two sides form a joint economic committee headed by deputy prime minister-level officials for close cooperation.

* Prospects for Northeast Asian Economic Zone

922C0027A Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 15 Oct 91 p 7

[Article by reporter Yu Sok-ku: "Toward a Forum for the Mutual Security of the Northeast Asian Nations"]

[Text] With the Soviet Union, China, and North Korea thinking about a shift to a market economy system and Japan—which does not know what to do with its overflowing trade profits—looking for the right investment opportunities overseas, the interests of these neighboring states are coinciding.

Especially with the international economic order rapidly being realigned into regional economic zones such as the European Community and the North American Free Trade Zone, the development of the Tumen River basin has excellent potential as a stimulus for accelerating economic cooperation among the states of Northeast Asia.

In addition, from our point of view, the development of the Tumen River basin can become a decisive impetus for opening up North Korea to the outside world.

Experts assess that even if North Korea should opt to open up to the outside world, there is an excellent possibility that it will adopt a Chinese-style model and start off in a delimited area in order to preserve its system, and gradually expand the open-door zone.

In this case, the Tumen River basin would, of course, be easily separated geographically from the interior of North Korea and would be a strong candidate for an open door.

From this viewpoint, we can see that North Korea is looking at the Tumen River development as a pretext for pursuing the open door in the form of joint ventures with the Soviet Union and China, while easing up its internal system, which has looked negatively on North-South economic exchanges.

A three-man government delegation including Kim Inho, chief of the External Economic Relations Division, will participate in the Pyongyang conference. Let us take a look at the details of the UNDP [United Nations Development Program] and the positions and future prospects of each country.

Background

The possibility of mutually complementary cooperation among the states of Northeast Asia in terms of economic structure has been frequently discussed in economic circles since the middle of the 1980's. At that time, however, the states of this area were heterogeneous in terms of economic systems and had severe disparities in economic power. Thus, the dominant view was that the time was not ripe for full-fledged economic cooperation.

With the sudden turnabout in the international situation and with China, North Korea, and the Soviet each putting forth ideas for the development of the Tumen River basin within the frontiers of their own countries, however, the possibility for an international joint venture development has grown.

The first time the Tumen River development project was discussed was in July of last year at the First International Conference on Northeast Asian Economic Development and Cooperation in Hunchun in China. At a meeting jointly sponsored by the Jilin Provincial Office of Science and Technology and the Asia and Pacific Institute of the East-West Center of the University of Hawaii, the Chinese side announced a "Plan for the Development of the Tumen River Basin."

Following this, in March of last year, the UNDP set forth three major cooperative projects in the Northeast Asian region for 1992-1996, which included the development of the Tumen River basin, atmospheric pollution and energy utilization, and food production in the temperate zone. The Tumen River development project attracted international attention with the United Nations as the arena.

Last July, the UNDP invited representatives of the countries concerned to Ulaanbataar in Mongolia and decided to promote the Tumen River development as a priority project, while agreeing to dispatch a survey team and prepare a report.

At Ulaanbataar, North Korea announced a "Vanguard Economic and Trade Zone Development Plan" and made official its intention to seriously participate in the Tumen River project.

Positions of Each Country

At present, North Korea, the Soviet Union, and China, which border on the Tumen River, show delicate differences in position, according to their own national interests.

North Korea's formulation calls for linking a Sonbong economic trade zone to the special zones of China and the Soviet Union by a land route, and using the three East Coast ice-free ports of Chongjin, Najin and Sonbong. North Korea touts the natural advantages of its location and emphasizes that its plan is more development-efficient than the Chinese plan, which is already taking shape.

China's essential focus is on securing a route by way of the Sea of Japan in order to develop the three Northeast provinces, which have abundant agricultural products and underground resources. That is, China wants to develop the Hunchun-Fangchuan area as a port and dredge the Tumen River and expand it into an ocean transport route.

The Soviet Union is emphasizing the development of the Maritime Province cities of Vladivostok and Nakhodka rather than the ports of Khasan and Posiet in the Tumen River Basin and looks somewhat negatively on the Tumen River project.

The UNDP Plan

In late August, the UNDP sent a team of three experts to the site and wrote a survey report. According to the report, the area would require the construction of 10 modern port facilities and new industrial cities with a population of 500,000 persons and this would require financial resources of $30 billion over the next 20 years.

The UNDP report pointed out in particular that unnecessary competition among the states involved would have to be reduced and that redundant investment in roads, ports, and related facilities would have to be avoided.

In its Tumen River Basin Development Plan the UNDP sets forth the proposal that: each country develop independently its own special zone; or that they cooperate administratively in the construction of a special zone in the contiguous area; or that each country either abandon its territorial rights and turn over the relevant area to one operating agency and operate it jointly.

As to the third joint development scheme—and the scale and location of the special zone—a draft plan was proffered for a small (1,000 square kilometer) triangular area linking Najin (North Korea), Hunchun or Jingxin (China), with Pociet (Soviet Union) and a large triangular area (10,000 square kilometers) linking Chongjin-Yanji (China) and Vladivostok (Soviet Union).

Regardless of which plan is decided on, the UNDP determined that in view of the international economic phases and implications in the Tumen River area, definite political decisions of the countries involved is urgent, which suggests that joint development is the most rational plan.

Through the Pyongyang Conference, the UNDP plans to set up a Tumen River Area Development Promotion Committee and operate subcommittees on trade, transportation, communications, finance, industry, and infrastructure investment strategies and to begin work on forming a working-level team to set up a development plan and to create a $12 million development research fund.

Our Side's Reaction

The government feels that the Tumen River project is still in its initial discussion stage and it will be a considerable amount of time before an agreement is reached among the concerned countries. In consideration of various international economic factors, however, the government believes that there is a strong possibility that this will succeed as a multilateral-cooperative project and plans to participate actively from the standpoint of promoting Northeast Asian cooperation.

In view of the impact the Tumen River development project will have on North-South trade, if the various countries' developmental plans conflict, the government has the internal plan of supporting the North Korean plan, which has the highest economical efficiency.

UNDP Pyongyang Conference: One Week Starting Today

The concept of developing an international special economic zone among the Northeast Asian states centering around the Tumen River estuary is beginning to take shape. The UNDP is holding a Northeast Asian Area Coordination Conference (NAC) in Pyongyang from 15 to 21 October. Government delegations from the four states of North and South Korea, China, and Mongolia will participate, and the Soviet Union and Japan will attend as observers. In addition to carrying out an on-site survey, the UNDP will negotiate the participation of the countries involved, and set up a regional development promotion committee, which will establish a development plan. Two factors are attracting our country's interest and the interest of other countries in the world in the Tumen River Development Plan. First, the Tumen River basin is a geographically strategic point which is tantamount to a route stretching from the Pacific Ocean (Sea of Japan) through Manchuria and Siberia, to Europe. Second, if the abundant underground resources of China and the Soviet Union, the superior manpower of North Korea, South Korea's economic development experience, and Japan's capital and technology can be brought together, it will be possible to create a superior world-class industrial zone.

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* Tumen River Basin Economic Zone Anticipated

922C0019A Seoul PUKBANG JOURNAL in Korean Sep 91 pp 34-37

[Article by reporter Pyo Un-tae: "Fever of Expectation is Running High Over the Tumen River Basin in Anticipation of a Special Economic Zone"]

[Text]**Free Market Zone in Hunchun**

While China is setting about in earnest developing Hunchun—which may be called the Northeast Asian Delta—Korean firms with dreams of advancing into the northern countries are moving fast to get a piece of the action.

On the heels of the announcement of the Chinese plan to develop Hunchun, a high-ranking North Korean official in late June asked the UN Economic Development Plan (UNDP) [as published] authorities for a feasibility study for establishing a special free economic zone in one of the four possible sites, namely, the Saetbyol delta area, Najin, Unggi, or Chongjin, in North Korea. Meanwhile, the Soviet Union has expressed its desire to develop Nakhotka near Havalovsk Harbor as a free trade zone. Thus, the area surrounding these special economic zones of the three countries centering on the Tumen River basin is about to emerge as a new economic zone in the Far East.

The Hunchun development plan attracts attention particularly because, according to the Chinese Government announcement of its eighth five-year economic plan late last year, it envisions plans to open Heshandao, in the Tumen River basin, as a free trade zone jointly with the Soviet Union and North Korea. It also plans to designate the delta area linking Hunchun and Tumen in China, Unggi in North Korea, and Nakhodka and Pos'yet in the Soviet Union as a special economic zones to induce foreign capital to revitalize the economy.

China plans to establish a free trade zone in the Hunchun area where the borders of North Korea, China, and the Soviet Union meet, with an eye to the future Northeast Asian economic zone. In other words, the idea is to link Hunchun to the Pacific-rim economic zone. China first conceived this plan when it designated Hunchun as an economic development zone in Jilin Province in December 1988, recognizing the validity of the concept of a sphere of economic co-prosperity. Besides its geographic advantage as a meeting point on the borders of the three countries, Hunchun is rich in natural resources. China's strategy is to turn Hunchun into a forward base and a link for reaching out to the Pacific-rim economic zone. This idea is also evident from the Chinese government's plan to build a Hunchun common market as revealed by Chong Chu-yong, honorary chairman of the Hyundai Group, who recently returned from an eight-day tour of China. In an arrival statement at Kimpo Airport, Chong predicted that a common market would be established in Hunchun, a Chinese border area in the Tumen River basin, before the end of this year, if everything went well, so that four countries, namely, South and North Korea, China, and the Soviet Union, could sell and buy commodities there freely.

Hyundai Likely To Participate in Hunchun Development

Chong Chu-yong said that it is highly possible that all commodities traded in this common market will be exempted from customs, and that the governments of the four countries will soon start discussing this question in detail.

He said that he received this assurance from Chinese Vice Premier Tian Jiyun; Zou Jiahua, vice premier and concurrently chairman of the State Planning Commission, who is a prospective candidate for the next premier; and other Chinese economic ministers. He added that this common market plan draws attention because, when realized, it will serve as a forward post for our enterprises in expanding trade with the northern countries.

Originally proposed by Vice Premier Tian Jiyun, the Hunchun common market plan is thought to be aimed at expanding four-way trade among North and South Korea, China, and the Soviet Union by trading their goods free of tariffs, in the form of barter or transit trade.

The plan may also be viewed as an effort to expand trade and investment, ultimately with an eye to the formation of the Northeast Asian economic zone, even though in the beginning transactions will take the form of barter, the most rudimentary form of exchange.

Chong Chu-yong said that he told the Chinese official that he approves of the plan for now, emphasizing that it is a prerequisite for expanding Korean corporate investments in China. He also said that the two governments should come up with various economic safeguards, including an agreement on investment guaranty, an agreement on the prevention of double taxation, and a trade agreement, in addition to the establishment of formal diplomatic relations. He added that the Chinese officials responded positively to his argument.

In order for the Hunchun common market plan to materialize, further joint efforts and time are needed. This area is in the Yanbian autonomous region inhabited by the Korean group, and it is possible to open a seaborne transpiration route via the Tumen River. For this reason, we hope that the plan will be given a fresh impetus.

Prior to designating the special economic zone in Hunchun, China had frictions with North Korea and the Soviet Union over the rights to use the Tumen River basin adjacent to their borders. At first, North Korea either opposed the plan outright or showed a passive attitude, and the Soviet Union also did not readily approved the plan. According to a diplomatic source, however, during General Secretary Jiang Zemin's visit to the Soviet Union in May, China and the Soviet Union agreed to this plan. Reportedly, the two countries even discussed the question of trading part of the Xinjiang area in China for part of the Soviet territory on the Tumen River estuary.

Great Possibility of North-South Collaboration

North Korea's approval of this plan after the initial opposition is expected to give a fresh impetus to the development program for Hunchun, which is called the "Golden Delta."

Another diplomatic source has disclosed that the Hunchun City government was recently given the green light to the details of its economic zone development plan, including its plan to designate an exportable goods processing district and a free trade industrial district.

According to the same source, the Hunchun development plan calls for: 1) designation of a three square kilometer wide district as the exportable goods processing district, in which measures similar to those taken in the coastal economic zones will be taken; 2) establishment of a one square kilometer wide free trade district in Fangchuan where the borders of China, the Soviet Union, and North Korea converge, with a view to developing it into an international free trade zone in the future; 3) construction of two coal bases with an annual capacity of over 5 million tons, as well as construction of gold mining, fruit farming, fish breeding, and vegetable growing complexes.

Signs indicate that when this Chinese plan materializes, the economic zone will give an impetus not only to three-way trade between China' northeastern frontier, the Soviet Union, and North Korea but also to trade and joint investments with the ROK and Japan.

In addition, it is highly possible that Korean firms will participate in harbor and highway construction projects in this economic zone and that North and South Korea will start joint ventures there. In any case, the Hunchun development plan is drawing keen attention from Northeast Asian countries.

This plan was included in China's eighth five-year plan which started in 1991, and as an initial step, China is hastening the Tumen-Hunchun railway construction project with the goal to complete it by 1993. In addition, China is reportedly formulating a joint Golden Delta development plan with the Soviet Union and North Korea.

North Korea Presents Detailed Plan

At the July UN Development Plan (UNDP) conference in Ulaanbaatar in Mongolia, North Korea disclosed for the first time a plan for establishing a Tumen River basin special economic zone. This plan raises high hopes because it is an indication of North Korea's determination to open its door to the outside world and because, when realized, the plan is expected to mark a practical turning point in realizing economic exchanges between North and South Korea.

At the Ulaanbaatar conference—attended by six Northeast Asian countries, namely, ROK, North Korea, China, the Soviet Union, Mongolia, etc. [as published]—the participants discussed and listened to each others' ideas regarding means of cooperation in the development of the Tumen River basin and in the areas of environment, food, and energy.

At the meeting, North Korea announced its plan to develop a special economic zone, an issue which has been a focus of attention both at home and abroad. North Korea's plan was quite concrete, even incorporating details on expanding harbors and other infrastructures. This indicates that the special economic zone plan was not a move merely aimed at opening North Korea to the outside world.

According to the plan, a 140 square kilometer area (including 40 square kilometers of lakes), covering Najin, Sonbong (formerly Unggi), and Saetbyol (the Saetbyol delta around Kyongwon) in North Hamgyong Province will be designated as a special economic and trade zone, in which unlimited foreign investment and trade will be permitted.

The plan takes into consideration the Nakhotka free trade zone in the Soviet Union and the Hunchun special economic zone being promoted by China. It incorporates a relatively detailed plan to develop transportation networks linking these Soviet and Chinese zones. The plan envisages the expansion of railways and other infrastructures linking the Saetbyol delta to the Soviet Union, Mongolia, and China, for instance. Thus, the special economic zone is not merely intended as a free trade zone, but as a forward base for advancing into the Northeast Asian continent.

The plan envisages the construction of an expressway linking Najin, Sonbong, and Fangchuan in the Tumen River basin, the expansion of harbor facilities in Najin and Sonbong, and the construction of a Najin-Chongjin railway line.

The feasibility of North Korea's Tumen River basin development plan is rather high because it is the most detailed and ambitious of all related plans conceived by the countries which have a direct stake in the development of the Tumen River basin.

North Korea reportedly plans to open the Tumen River basin special economic zone to all countries, and in particular, hopes that the ROK, the United States, and Japan will participate in the development projects. On the question of possible ROK participation, however, North Korea reportedly will not permit ROK firms to identify themselves as "Hanguk" firms, but would rather have them participate as field agencies of the United Nations or of a third country. A government source said that it will be possible for our firms to participate under the name of ROK nationality once the construction of the special zone is completed, however.

Further details of the North Korean plan will emerge when a coordination and management conference of four Northeast Asian countries opens in Pyongyang in late October or early November. The conference will focus on the Tumen River basin development feasibility survey conducted by a UNDP technical survey team.

With regard to the change in the North Korean attitude, our government plans to verify the true intention of North Korea and get a more detailed picture of the special zone development plan when the next high-level North-South talks are held in Pyongyang.

The Saetbyol-Unggi-Najin area in which a special economic zone will be established is a vast area which lacks infrastructures, including highways, harbors, and industrial support facilities. Thus, billions of dollars in development funds will be needed to develop this special zone.

China plans to cover 60 percent of the $2 billion needed for the initial phase of the Hunchun special zone development plan with foreign investments from the ROK, Japan, and other countries. It is anticipated, therefore, that the Soviet Union, China, and North Korea will vie with one another to introduce foreign investments for the development projects in the Tumen River basin.

Tumen River Basin Emerging as Golden Zone

The Soviet Union is also expected to designate Nakhotka Port as a free trade zone on the heels of the Chinese and North Korean respective plans to develop the Hunchun and Saetbyol areas of the Tumen River basin as special economic zones. Far East Asia is rapidly emerging as a new investment target for the Western world, including the ROK.

Although in the past it objected to designating Nakhotka Harbor as a free trade zone, the Soviet military has recently withdrawn its opposition, making it certain that the USSR Government will approve the Nakhotka free trade zone plan before October.

The Soviet Union has been pushing hard to establish a Nakhotka special trade zone for the purpose of introducing capital and advanced technology from foreign countries and to streamline the supply of commodities. Korean firms, as well as U.S., Canadian, and Japanese firms, have already been actively studying the feasibility of investments in this zone.

In the future, when these three countries have substantially developed their special economic zones in the Tumen River basin, an investment competition in infrastructures is likely to intensify among advanced capitalist countries.

Establishing a free trade zone in Nakhotka will be of great significance in gaining a stronghold, particularly for our firms which are pushing for participation in the development of resources in Siberia.

Given North Korea's hopes that our firms and those of developed countries will participate in the development of the Tumen River basin special economic zone covering Chongjin, Najin, Saetbyol, and Unggi, and given the Chinese decision to develop Hunchun as a free trade zone, it is expected that a new economic Far East Asian economic zone covering the North Korean, Chinese, and Soviet special zones will become a reality.

ROK Firms To Move Into Tumen River Basin

Our firms think four-way trade among the ROK, North Korea, China, and Soviet Union is possible by utilizing these three special zones and they are expected to actively promote joint investments for resource development in these zones.

A survey team sponsored by the Korea Trade Promotion Corporation (KOTRA) arrived in Beijing, China, on 27 August with the intention of viewing the Tumen River basin special economic zone in North Korea and the Hunchun free trade zone in China. While in China, the team will conduct a full-scale examination of the pertinent investment climate, until 9 September.

The survey team is represented by the economic research institutes of Daewoo, Samsung, Lucky-Goldstar, Cheil, and Hyundai, as well as economic organizations such as the Federation of Korean Industries, the Korea Traders Association, the Korea Institute of Economics & Technology, and the Institute for National Reunification. During its stay in China, the survey team will visit Hunchun, Yanji, and Changchun and examine the plan to develop the special economic zone in the North Korea-USSR-PRC border region, study ways for Korean firms to participate in this plan, and survey the environment for trade and investment opportunities in North Korea, particularly trade and investment by using the ethnic group in Yanbian.

The survey team will also attend the Far East Asian fair and the Northeast Asian cooperation and development seminar which will be held in Tianjin from 2 through 7 September. It also plans to examine the feasibility of economic cooperation in terms of the development of natural resources, exchange of technologies, joint investments, and manpower exports. The team will also study the feasibility of cooperation in connection with the North Korean plan to develop a special economic zone in the Tumen River basin, the Chinese plan to establish a Hunchun free trade zone, and the Soviet plan to establish the Nakhotka free trade zone.

With regard to North Korea's plan to develop a special economic zone in the Tumen River basin and the Chinese plan to establish a Hunchun free trade zone, major Korean business groups—such as Hyundai, Daewoo, Samsung, and Dong-A—reportedly discussed, from various angles, ways to participate in the river-bed dredging project designed to build a water-borne transportation route by dredging sand at the bottom of the Tumen River estuary.

Against this backdrop, major business groups such as Samsung, Hyundai, Daewoo, and Lucky-Goldstar, with their general firms in the van, reportedly began mapping out full-fledged strategies for advancing into North Korea. These include studying ways to make indirect investments through overseas Korean residents in the United States, Japan, China, and Hong Kong, ways to push for the establishment of their liaison offices in Pyongyang, and plans to organize ad hoc project teams and participate in the special economic zone.

Samsung has already dispatched Korean residents in the United States to Pyongyang on three or four occasions since May, reportedly to discuss ways to participate in the Chongjin special economic zone plan. According to rumors, Hyundai also sent a Korean resident to Pyongyang to hammer out a deal on the Tumen River dredging and some other projects. Daewoo and Lucky-Goldstar are reportedly looking for overseas Korean residents who can stay in North Korea. Attention is paid to the report that taking advantage of the investment climate survey team dispatched to China late last month, KOTRA also has been studying three-way trade opportunities as well as opportunities for direct investment by using the Korean ethnic group in Yanbian, China. This method of using overseas Korean residents to advance into North Korea is considered highly practicable in view of the fact that a similar method was used in the early stage of Korean firms' advances into China.

South Korean general trading firms have begun to strengthen their organizational structures to get ready for the boom in trade with North Korea.

Samsung Corporation organized a North Korean team in its department of northern area strategic enterprises in May, ahead of all other firms. Daewoo Corporation plans to establish a special team in its office of planning and coordination to specialize in dealing with and preparing for changing relations with North Korea. In the past, North Korean affairs were under the jurisdiction of the company's headquarters for Area I operations. Hyundai, Lucky-Goldstar, and Sunkyong decided to establish teams specializing in dealings with North Korea. In addition, KOTRA plans to set up the North Korea section in latter half of the year with a view to providing active assistance to our firms in economic cooperation with North Korea. From now on, KOTRA is expected to concentrate on plans to promote direct trade and investment, and on plans associated with the special economic zone.

When the special economic zone construction plans—separately pushed by North Korea, China, and the Soviet Union—are put into effect successfully, it will bring prosperity to the Tumen River basin area centering on Heshandao as envisioned by the UNDP and this area will emerge as a new economic zone in Northeast Asia.

* Government To Implement 'Privacy Act' in 1992

922C0014A Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 3 Oct 91 p 8

[Article by reporter Sin Chung-chu: "Privacy Act Sought Seriously by ROK Government"]

[Text] The Korean Government is seriously considering enactment of a "Privacy Act" to prevent the leakage of private information, collected and electronically stored by the administrative offices.

Under the co-sponsorship of the Ministry of Government Administration, the Ministry of Communication and the Korea Electronics Center, a public debate on a "Privacy Act" took place in the great hall of the Sejong Cultural Center on 20 September 1991. According to the government's draft made public at this debate, the government will protect the rights and privacy of citizens by imposing limits on government organizations and government-sponsored organizations in their information gathering methods and the subsequent usage of private information as well as by allowing the public to examine and amend the information gathered by these organizations.

Private information, excluding matters concerning one's ideology and religion, may be gathered by public institutions according to laws and statutes. Even when gathering information is not strictly pertinent or in accordance with the law, that information may be available to public institutions if the information will clearly benefit the individual and provided the institution submits a written request.

This draft also provides any individual with the right to review or amend the information on himself as well as the right to refuse giving out information. Moreover, it allows one the right to demand compensation for any damage caused by the information. In case any personnel in charge of private information at a public institution causes damage to someone, intentionally or by mistake, that institution is responsible for the damage and will have to compensate for it. Any person who illegally gathers, reads or leaks private information will be subject to a maximum three year's imprisonment or a fine of no more than 3 million won.

The president of Production Technology Research Center, Mr. Kim Yong-wook, who was one of the participants at the debate, said, "Because the constitution, the Resident Registration Law and the Electronic Information Law already somewhat protect the privacy of individuals, the government must first work on the "Information Release Act" to facilitate the flow of information on individuals and their families handled by administrative offices."

The Ministry of Communication's Director of Information and Communication Mr. Chumg Hong-sik who was another participant at the debate, said, "Although it is important to implement the "Privacy Act" against the possible misuse of private information as the electronic-information network expands, it is also essential to hasten the enactment of the "Information Release Act" in preparation for the information/communication age to come. It should define the substance and extent of the information to be released in order to guarantee the free flow and usage of the information available."

At the forum on "Freedom of Information Law in Preparation for Information-Age Society," held on 14 September at the Press Center under the sponsorship of Korean Press Society, Kim Kwang-ok (journalism) professor of Suwon University and Kim Chul-su (law) professor of Seoul National University both stated forcefully that, because the information obtained by the government is the people's property, except for classified information, the information should be available to the public. They both urged speedy implementation of the "Information Release Act" along with, if not prior to, the implementation of the "Privacy Act."

With regard to private information obtained by citizens, Professor Byon Jae-ok of Yongnam University and Mr. Yon Sung-jin, an editorial writer of MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN, insisted at the forum that a separate law should be created to protect the private lives of individuals. Professor An Moon-sik of Koryo University, on the other hand, said, "The 'Privacy Act' should be tried in public organizations first before expanding the law to private citizens."

To look more closely at the advanced nations' legislation on the "Privacy Act" and "Information Release Act," the United Kingdom and Japan have implemented only the "Privacy Act" while Sweden has enacted both the "Privacy Act" and the "Information Release Act." The United States, on the other hand, has implemented the "Privacy Act" as a supplement to her "Information Release Act."

The government intends to finalize the "Privacy Act" before the end of this year, and enact it by 1992.

Ruling Party Leaders Offer Resignations

SK0412020391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0111 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 4 (YONHAP)—Kim Chong-ho, floor leader of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), Kim Yun-hwan, secretary-general, and Na Ung-pae, chief policymaker, offered to resign from their positions Wednesday.

Kim Chong-ho called on party executive chairman Kim Yong-sam at his home and submitted his resignation, assuming responsibility for last week's railroading of dozens of controversial bills through assembly committees.

"I had wanted to make my position clear as soon as next year's budget was passed," he said.

Kim Yun-hwan and Na offered to resign verbally, sources at the ruling party said.

Kim Yong-sam took the resignations to President No Tae-u.

The sources said the floor leader's resignation would be accepted but Kim Yun-hwan's and Na's would not, noting that Yi Cha-hon, 56, from the Pyongtaek constituency, chief of the DLP's national policy research office, was most likely to be picked as Kim's replacement.

New Floor Leader Named

SK0412030691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0243 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 4 (YONHAP)—The Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) named Yi Cha-hon its new floor leader Wednesday but kept its secretary-general and chief policymaker.

Yi, a 56-year-old four-term lawmaker from Pyongtaek, Kyonggi Province, was chief of the DLP National Policy Research Office. He replaces Kim Chong-ho, who resigned earlier Wednesday.

Secretary-General Kim Yun-hwan and chief policymaker Na Ung-pae were retained in their posts to handle the last two weeks of the current National Assembly session and prepare the ruling party for next year's general elections, a party spokesman said.

The three party leaders tendered their resignations early Wednesday, holding themselves responsible for the massive ruckus after the DLP railroaded bills through assembly committees.

Born in Pyongtaek, Yi graduated from Seoul National University's Political Science Department and joined the vernacular daily CHOSON ILBO. He became deputy political editor before moving to SEOUL SINMUN, where he became political editor and later managing editor by the time he was 33.

He joined the government service in 1973 as director of the office of political affairs management for the second state minister. He won his first seat in the National Assembly in 1979 and was re-elected in following elections.

He served as communications minister in 1985-1986.

Reserve Forces To Undergo Restructuring

SK0312065791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0633 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 3 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u directed military leaders and related government ministries Tuesday to restructure the homeland reserve forces to a proper strength for security purposes and to lower the age limit of the reservists.

Meeting with the new chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, Gen. Yi Pil-sop, and Army Chief of Staff Gen. Kim Chin-yong, No said the government should find ways to solve labor shortages in the manufacturing sector by readjusting the reserve system.

The government would cut the 4.2 million-strong reserve forces to 2.8 million and lower the training age limit of 33 by three or four years, leading to changes in the training of reservists from which manufacturing workers would especially benefit, a military source said.

Presidential spokesman Yi Su-chong said the Defense Ministry and other ministries would announce the details soon. Currently, every enlisted retiree from active service is required to take part in reserve forces training.

Burma

More Reportage on Philippine Minister's Visit

'Frank,' 'Cordial' Talks Held

BK0312141191 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] Mr. Raul Manglapus, minister of foreign affairs of the Philippines, and members of his delegation, in the company of Ms. Rosalinda V. Tirona, Philippine ambassador to Myanmar [Burma], called on Lieutenant General Chit Swe, minister of agriculture and forests and livestock breeding and fisheries, at the conference hall of the Myanmar Agriculture Enterprise on Natmauk Road at 1500 today.

During the frank and cordial talks, matters concerning bilateral friendship and economic and technical cooperation were discussed.

Also present at the meeting were heads of departments under the Ministries of Agriculture and Forests and Livestock Breeding and Fisheries.

In the evening, Lt. Gen. Chit Swe and his wife hosted a dinner for the visiting minister, Mrs. Manglapus, and members of his delegation at the restaurant in the People's Park.

Earlier, at 1600, Mr. Raul Manglapus and members of his delegation, in the company of the Philippine ambassador to Myanmar, held frank and cordial talks on bilateral economic and trade matters with Brigadier General Abel, minister of planning and finance and trade.

Also present at the meeting held at the Ministry of Trade were U Maung Maung Kyaw, director general of the Directorate of Trade; U Min Aung, adviser to the Ministry of Planning and Finance; Daw Khine Khine, director general of the Planning Department; U (Chit Swe), vice president of the Myanmar Central Bank; and responsible officials of the Ministry of Trade.

At 0830, Mr. Manglapus, accompanied by the Philippine ambassador to Myanmar, visited the Shwedagon Pagoda where they were welcomed and shown around by pagoda trustees U Maung Htoo and U Nyan Lwin.

At 1030, Mr. Manglapus and his entourage visited the Foreign Ministry annex and held talks with a Myanmar side headed by Foreign Minister U Ohn Gyaw.

Domestic matters of the two countries, bilateral relations, and regional and international affairs were discussed during the talks.

Meets Ruling Council Vice Chairman

BK0312140691 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] General Than Shwe, deputy chairman of State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], received Mr. Raul Manglapus, minister of foreign affairs of the Philippines, at the Dagon Yeiktha hall of the Defense Ministry at 0930 today.

Also present on the occasion together with Gen. Than Shwe were SLORC Secretary-1 Major General Khin Nyunt; SLORC Secretary-2 Maj. Gen. Tin U; Foreign Minister U Ohn Kyaw; and Thura U Aung Htet, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Protocol Department.

Accompanying the visiting foreign minister was Ms. Rosalinda V. Tirona, Philippine ambassador to Myanmar [Burma].

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Pahang Considering Importing Indochinese Timber

BK0412072691 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0626 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Dec 4 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The Malaysian state of Pahang is looking into importing timber from Indochina states with the intention of processing the timber.

Pahang Chief Minister Khalil Yaakob said a team had already made the necessary contacts with the three Indochina countries—Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos.

"The state government has already approved the setting up of a committee to look into the timber imports from these countries," he said, adding that these countries were just opening up their markets.

Khalil said the federal government had approved an industrial site in the Kuantan Port outskirts for the manufacture of finished furniture products. He said the timber would be imported through the Kuantan Port and transported to nearby factories.

Khalil said the government had initially thought of farming out the contracts for the finished products but had now decided against it.

"With farming out, we have to compromise on quality which will be difficult as our intention is to capture the overseas market," he said.

Khalil said that the demand for tropical timber had fallen following the protests by the "green" people or environmentalists. He said that Japan and South Korea, the major buyers of Malaysian timber, had opted to use softwoods.

Khalil said the "green" people, who harped on the anti-tropical timber issue, had vested interests.

"These people want to raise the prices of our timber, which is of high quality, so that the Europeans will opt for the softwoods from Eastern Europe," he said.

G-15 Summit Communique Reviewed

BK0312121991 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 2 Dec 91 p 12

[Editorial: "A New Order for All"]

[Text] Unquestionably, communism has fallen by the wayside. The Cold War has ended in economic and political turmoil. The food for thought that lies in the rubble of the Soviet's collapsed empire is: Did democracy and capitalism win?

That is not so clear. But what is clear in the wake of Bush's "New World Order", which began with a war that took the lives of more than a hundred thousand Iraqis and Kurds, the day of global democracy has not remotely come.

As observed in the communique issued at the end of the second summit of the Group of 15 (G-15), there is the obvious inequity in the treatment of the issue of democracy where the kind of democracy prescribed and preached to the countries of the South is not practiced at the international level. This iniquitous attitude of the developed countries reveals the inequality and imbalance within the North-South relations. The North's "holier-than-thou" attitude, Big-brother advice and continuous reproach of the South carry much more of the flavor of the persecution of heretics than of the welcoming of honourable opinions or dissent.

More worrisome, it appears that the emerging new world order noisily espoused and championed by the North is taking a direction towards the return to the old dominance of the powerful over the weak. Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed said: "The global unity of action which ended an unacceptable aggression against a small country has not been translated into new positive global approaches to resolve pressing issues which best the international communiity." A realistic observation, indeed.

The north's prescription of the New World Order includes the spread of democracy, free market and free trade. Fine, but must these prescriptives be embraced together with the Northern political and economic model? The North should bear in mind that economic interdependence, necessary as it is, is only helpful as long as it does not impinge on political independence, lest free trade will trouble free people. And the imposition of conditions on aid has only resulted in the suspicion that the North is getting free trade confused with imperialism under a new banner. And what democracy is this if any disagreement with the US is viewed as quixotic, if not foolhardy. And yes, must the poor nations pay for the prosperity of the rich ones? If no, why can't the world's capitalist socks hold up the garter of price elasticity for once?

The G-15, calling for a new global partnership, recognized the urgent need to have a dialogue with the North in evolving a New World Order and replacing the North-South imbalanced relations with a meaningful North-South co-operation. This is stated in the communique whereby the G-15 "will continue to intensify efforts in our quest for a world with prosperity, justice and freedom for all, where there is no South, no North, no West and no East, but one single human family with the equality of opportunity and participation for all of its members; one single world".

The G-15 is poised to become a relevant body in a world where post-war blocs have crumbled. Its participation in shaping the world will have more direction and purpose upon completion of the paper on its views on the New World Order that should prevail. The challenge, however, remains on the North not to give a knee-jerk response to the South's views and aspirations on the New World Order.

Singapore

Ban Lifted on Bank Loans to SRV Firms

BK0412095491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0931 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Singapore, Dec 4 (AFP)—The signing of the Cambodian peace accord has allowed the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) to lift its ban on financial institutions here lending funds to Vietnamese companies or to firms doing business there, its spokesman told AFP [AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE] Wednesday.

He confirmed the MAS had sent a circular dated November 18 to banks and finance companies which said "financial institutions may resume normal banking transactions in Vietnam".

The MAS move followed a Foreign Ministry announcement of the lifting of a 13-year-old ban on investments in Cambodia and Vietnam following the signup of a peace accord in Paris by the Cambodian warring factions and a visit here by Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet.

Kiet became the first Vietnamese premier to visit Singapore since 1978 when he was here for two days at the end of October. [as received]

The latest circular superseded one issued in 1989 which advised financial institutions here to show support for an embargo by ASEAN countries on aid to Vietnam until the Cambodian problem was resolved.

The ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) countries comprising Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the

Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, had banned aid to Vietnam to protest Hanoi's invasion of Cambodia in 1978.

The earlier circular also required banks and financial institutions here to inform the MAS, Singapore's de facto central bank, if any Vietnamese firms or Vietnamese-related businesses asked for credit facilities.

The government's ban on investment was never completely successful: the BUSINESS TIMES newspaper, citing Hanoi-supplied figures, said Singapore companies invested about 17.7 million U.S. dollars in six projects in Vietnam in July alone.

This made Singapore Vietnam's second biggest investor among the ASEAN countries, second only to Thailand, the business daily said.

Trade between the two countries was, however, allowed and totalled one billion Singapore dollars (592 million U.S.) last year, nearly double the 1989 figure, according to the daily.

Some local banks were quoted by the business daily Wednesday as being happy with the MAS' announcement, with one of them saying it was welcome as it represented more business opportunities for them.

Technology Investment Brings Information Advances

BK0312151691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0800 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] Singapore, Dec 3 (AFP)—Singapore's technological investment makes it well placed to exploit the fusion of information technologies and telecomunications, a government minister said Tuesday.

Lim Boon Heng, senior minister of state for trade and industry, was speaking at the opening of the International Conference in Information Engineering here.

"Singapore's investment in computers and telecommunications has placed us in a very advantageous position to exploit these technological and industrial trends in the area of information technology (IT)," Lim said.

He said harnessing the power of IT would help creativity and create pervasive linkages of individuals, firms and communities around the globe.

Lim said the conference theme of integrating computers and communications systems with special emphasis on information networking "is timely and appropriate" for Singapore.

He noted that the government had in October approved a national information technology masterplan, IT2000, with the goal of IT2000 of developing Singapore into an "intelligent island".

"Under this plan, we aim to use IT creatively to develop Singapore into a global hub, to boost our economic engine, to enhance the learning and potential of individuals, to link communities locally and globally, and to improve the quality of life," Lim said.

The three-day conference has attracted the industry's professionals from North America, Europe and Asia, who will listen to more than 140 technical papers to be presented.

Cambodia

Son Sann Warns Against Violent Acts, Disunity

BK0412111191 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Interview with Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front and member of the Supreme National Council, by an unidentified correspondent of the Voice of the Khmer radio in Phnom Penh on 27 November —recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] I represent the Voice of the Khmer [VOK]. My respects to His Excellency [H.E.] Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] and member of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia. First of all, I would like to thank your excellency for allowing me to hold this interview in Phnom Penh today to be broadcast for the information of all VOK listeners.

Mr. President, you arrived in Phnom Penh on the 21st. Can you tell us your impression since your arrival in Phnom Penh of the general situation in the country and particularly in Phnom Penh?

[Son Sann] I am one of those who have not seen Phnom Penh for years. Like all brothers who have just arrived in Phnom Penh, I am very happy to find myself here. Since my arrival it has always been my desire to assist the population, to help Cambodia. You asked me what I have seen. Let me tell you frankly that I have seen some good things in certain domains but there are other sectors that seem far from being well-organized and that need total reorganization. This should not be construed as criticism. In coming here I feel deep down inside me that I want to help—yes, in my capacity as a Cambodian who wants to help his felow Cambodians. First of all, I want to help the SNC to reorganize Cambodia so that it will become orderly, fair-minded, and prosperous.

[Correspondent] Thank you, Mr. President. You said that you wish to help the smooth functioning of the SNC. However, some incidents have occurred during your current stay. Can you tell us that the SNC is in a position to progress?

[Son Sann] I beg all Cambodian brothers and sisters and all our international friends to join hands in helping implement the Big-Five solution that all of us signed in Paris on 23 October. I beg our foreign friends to help Cambodia and the Cambodian people implement that

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Think hard about that. Do not be short-sighted. Do not forget that you have the best weapon in your hands: your votes.

NADK Issues Accords Implementation Statement

BK0412031491 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 3 Dec 91

["Statement" of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea dated 2 December 1991]

[Text] Statement of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] on the significance of the residence in Phnom Penh and that of the Paris accord on Cambodia:

1. After the 27 November 1991 premeditated attack on the residence of Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, members of the Supreme National Council [SNC], by an allied group, a number of problems has arisen;

2. The Phatthaya 1 document and the Paris 25 October 1991 document on the immunity and inviolability of the residence and the SNC members have been fully endorsed by the SNC, the Paris conference cochairmen, the United Nations, and the five major powers;

3. The two regulations and the Paris accord were grossly and totally violated in the heart of Phnom Penh where the SNC headquarters is located and a number of UN force members are staying. This is irrefutable and undeniable;

4. The Phnom Penh faction has made this or that promise to find accommodation with this or that police protection. Yet, can the verbal assurance, oath, or [words indistinct] guarantee more assurance than the Phatthaya 1 document, the 25 October 1991 Paris document, and the Paris accord? As these documents have already been arrogantly and barbarously violated, who will believe in the promise made in one or two, ten or twenty, or one thousand words? Are the Phnom Penh side, or the aggressors, or the allied group the proprietors of Phnom Penh?

5. The SNC members' residences are their offices with immunity and inviolability according to the Phatthaya 1 document, the Paris 25 October 1991 document, and the 23 October 1991 Paris accord;

6. Therefore, the accords, which constitute internatianal law or a charter for Cambodia during the transitional period, must be correctly and meticulously implemented;

7. The agreements clearly specify two transitional authorities for the implementation of the Paris accord in Cambodia:

A. The SNC;

B. The UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC];

8. The two transitional authorities in Cambodia are responsible for the implementation of the Paris accord. This means:

A. The four-party SNC is the unique source of authority in Cambodia to jointly work with the UNTAC;
B. The UNTAC, a UN transitional administration in Cambodia, is set up by the United Nations, the UN Security Council [UNSC], the five permanent UNSC members, and the Paris conference cochairmen in conformity with the significance of the Paris 23 October 1991 accord—the Paris accord is a document officially and solemnly signed by 18 countries and the United Nations on 23 October 1991;

9. Therefore, all must implement the Paris accord. Some people are under the false impression that the Cambodians or the Cambodian SNC alone are responsible for the Paris accord implementation. This statement totally contradicts the Paris accord on Cambodia, which stipulates that the transitional authorities, meaning the SNC and UNTAC, are responsible for the implementation. Only with the SNC and UNTAC responsible for the implementation of the Paris accord, can the accord be implemented step by step.

10. Therefore, this or that claim about finding accommodations for the SNC members and this or that assurance about providing a large number of policemen for the protection of the residences are completely running counter to the Paris accord on Cambodia, the Phatthaya 1 document, and the Paris 25 October 1991 agreement on the immunity and inviolability of the residences and staff members of the SNC;

11. In sum, the problem does not arise from only one or two special cases, such as the so-called issue of accommodation, put forth to shirk responsibility. Importantly, the problem posed is whether the Paris accord, the Phatthaya 1 document, and the Paris 25 October 1991 document on the immunity and inviolability of the residences and the SNC members and their personnel can be effectively implemented. And conspicuously, how has the Paris 23 October 1991 accord signed by the 18 countries and the United Nations already been implemented? Who is reponsible for its concrete implementation? Is it not the SNC and UNTAC?

[Dated] Cambodia, 2 December 1991
[Signed] National Army of Democratic of Kampuchea

Kompong Svay Urges New Venue for SNC Meeting

BK0412073291 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 2 Dec 91

["Opinion of people, soldiers, and administrative personnel in Kompong Svay District of Kompong Thom Province, supporting Democratic Kampuchea side's proposal on arranging the meeting place of the Supreme National Council"—read by announcer]

[Text] We, the people and Cambodian soldiers and administrative personnel who were previously forced to serve the Vietnamese aggressors in Kompong Svay District of Kompong Thom Province, want to achieve independence and peace. We do not want to see the Vietnamese war of aggression anymore. During the past nearly 13 years, our families, parents, children, and relatives were separated from each other—some lost children and some others became widows—and lost their property, farm animals, and land.

After the signing on 23 October of the peace agreement to end Vietnam's war of aggression against Cambodia, we were all very happy. We have jointly abided by and implemented the agreement at all times. But our representatives were offended when on 27 November a handful of elements in Phnom Penh and foreigners who mingled among the Cambodian people attacked the house of Their Excellencies Khuieu Samphan and Son Sen, members of the Supreme National Council [SNC]. In addition to destroying the documents on the solution to the Cambodian problem, ransacking our belongings, and stealing money, these elements hurt our SNC members.

This was a systematically prearranged crime committed at the instigation of foreigners who paid these elements to sow discord among the Cambodian people in an attempt to destroy the peace agreement to end the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia.

We, people, soldiers, and administrative personnel in Kompong Svay District resolutely oppose this act.

We, the people in Kompong Svay District, like all other Cambodian people, want the peace agreement on ending the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia to be implemented quickly, effectively, correctly, and scrupulously.

If the SNC members on the Phnom Penh side cannot provide security for other SNC members, we are of the opinion that a new meeting place should be sought.

We, people, soldiers, and administrative personnel, voice support for the Democratic Kampuchea side's proposal to hold the next SNC meeting—after the current meeting in Phatthaya—in Pailin or any other place where security can be ensured for all SNC members so as to implement the peace agreement on ending the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia quickly, effectively, correctly, and scrupulously.

Attack on Khieu Samphan 'Extremely Serious'

BK0412043991 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] At 1300 on 3 December in the Thai city of Phatthaya, the meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia was solemnly held under the chairmanship of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia and chairman of the SNC.

This SNC meeting discussed the implementation of the Paris accord on a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem in the wake of the attack on the residence of Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, SNC members, in Phnom Penh on 27 November 1991.

The violation of the residence and the attack causing injury to Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen on 27 November was an onslaught to dismantle the SNC—Cambodia's legitimate body and unique source of authority and the embodiment of Cambodian sovereignty and independence.

This event is extremely serious and is the second violation and aggression against Cambodia. This has encroached upon the accord signed on 23 October 1991, thereby violating the resolution of the UN Security Council on a solution to end the war of aggression against Cambodia. This event has caused grave concern to the Cambodian nation and people inside and outside the country as well as the international community. This is the reason why an urgent SNC meeting under Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's chairmanship has been convened. With the Cambodian parties, the representatives of the Paris conference cochairmen, the five permanent members of the UNSC, the UN secretary general, and the UN Advance Mission in Cambodia were also present.

SNC Communique Issued on Phatthaya Session

BK0412130791 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 4 Dec 91

["Communique of the Supreme National Council"; dated 3 December—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. With full attention focused on creating and maintaining an excellent political atmosphere replete with a sense of stability, mutual trust, and neutrality in which the Supreme National Council of Cambodia [SNC] can fulfill the duty handed to it by the Paris peace agreement in its capacity as the source of authority and the sole legal organization representing the national sovereignty, independence, and unity, a session of the SNC initiated by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, chief of state and chairman of the SNC, took place in Phatthaya, Thailand, on 3 December 1991 under the samdech's august chairmanship.

2. Toward this goal, Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk raised a number of enlightened proposals during the consultations. The SNC members expressed profound gratitude to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk for his important contribution, which once again confirms his resolute and unswerving determination to fully implement the

Paris peace agreement to achieve peace and national reconciliation as soon as possible.

3. Following a thorough exchange of views, all SNC members reached a total consensus on taking necessary measures, including the following steps:

a. With the assurance given by His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen that the incident of 27 November 1991 would not be allowed to happen again, a safety zone measuring from 300 to 500 meters will be created around the residences of the SNC members and full security would be ensured for all SNC members and their aides as well as for travel from their respective residences to the meeting venue and to the airport. The SNC members from the party of Democratic Kampuchea and their aides agreed to return to Phnom Penh as soon as possible. They will reside and work in the headquarters of the SNC until the establishment of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia in February 1992. Thereafter, H.E. Khieu Samphan and H.E. Hun Sen will together seek new residences for the SNC members from the party of Democratic Kampuchea.

b. The Secretariat of the SNC will be open for work as soon as possible.

c. The bureaus of the liaison officer of the UN Advance Mission in Cambodia, of the De-mining Commission, and of the Joint Military Task Group will be moved to the headquarters of the SNC and the Secretariat of the SNC.

d. The meeting of the SNC under the chairmanship of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk will take place at the Khemarin Pavillion of the Royal Palace.

e. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, chief of state and chairman of the SNC, will make an appeal to all Cambodian people to enhance and preserve a peaceful and neutral political atmosphere leading toward national reconciliation and necessary for the implementation of the Paris peace agreement.

4. The SNC expressed its profound gratitude to the representatives of the two cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, the chairman of the UN Advance Mission in Cambodia, and the representatives of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council for participating in the afternoon session and for contributing to urging the security of all SNC members.

5. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, chief of state and chairman of the SNC, together with all SNC members reiterated profound gratitude to and high appreciations of the king and queen, the Government, and the people of the Kingdom of Thailand for their precious and incomparable contributions to restoring and preserving peace, independence, and national reconciliation in Cambodia and to ensuring the full implementation of the peace agreement and for the warm reception and hospitality accorded to all SNC members.

Originated in Phatthaya, Thailand, on 3 December 1991.

Khieu Samphan Announces Return to Capital

BK0412093991 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0417 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 4 (SPK)—The Khmer Rouge will return to Phnom Penh shortly, their titular chief Khieu Samphan announced Tuesday at southeastern Phatthaya resort, where the 12 Cambodian members of the Supreme National Council [SNC] met, according to AFP [AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE].

"We have managed to solve the problem," he added, referring to the attack by Phnom Penh residents against the Khmer Rouge last Wednesday during which he himself barely escaped being lynched.

Khieu Samphan refused to specify the date he would return to Cambodia with Son Sen, the military chief of the Khmer Rouge and also an SNC member, who was evacuated at the same time from Phnom Penh. The Khmer Rouge demanded UN military protection from Phnom Penh.

Earlier, permanent members of the UN Security Council launched an appeal calling on rival Cambodian factions to be together again in Phnom Penh as soon as possible.

Release of Kun Tieng to PDK Demanded 3 Dec

BK0412034791 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 3 Dec 91

[3 December "Open Complaint" from Wife and Children of Mr Kun Tieng—"Arrested by an Alliance of Aggressors"—demanding his release to the party of Democratic Kampuchea; read by announcer]

[Text] Open complaint demanding the release to the party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] of Mr. Kun Tieng arrested by an alliance of aggressors at the Phnom Penh residence of their excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen:

1. The attack by the alliance of aggressors on the residence of Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen on 27 November is a violation of the Phatthaya 1 Document, the Paris 25 October 1991 document, and the Paris accord;

2. Apart from storming the residence and attacking the members of the Supreme National Council [SNC] and their staff members on 27 November, the base intruders also arrested and took away Mr. Kun Tieng, Mr. Son Sen's personal messenger. According to a report, Mr. Kun Tieng was tortured and interrogated by the Vietnamese [words indistinct] about the documents concerning all matters and various situations related to Democratic Kampuchea and its leadership;

3. The report of the interrogation by the Vietnamese has been exploited by the Vietnamese propaganda apparatus all over the world; and

4. We wish to protest to all the SNC members, the UN secretary general, the Paris conference cochairmen, the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], the UN Advance Mission in Cambodia [UNAMIC], and the 18 countries—signatories of the Paris accord—and ask them to help secure the release of Mr. Kun Tieng to the DPK immediately.

[Dated] 3 December 1991.
[Signed] Wife and children of Kun Tieng.

UN Envoys Said To Force Shelving of Bickering

BK0412084391 Hong Kong AFP in English 0808 GMT 4 Dec 91

[by Erskine McCullough]

[Text] Phatthaya, Thailand Dec 4 (AFP)—The importance of the U.N. role in Cambodia has been underlined here after U.N. envoys forced bickering Cambodian factions to at least temporarily shelve their differences and get on with making their peace plan a success.

Diplomats from the Security Council's five permanent members managed to unite the factions sufficiently during hastily called meetings Tuesday, and at the end the factions said the peace process was still moving forward.

At the centre of the latest row which threatened to derail the peace talks was last week's attack by an angry mob on the Khmer Rouge headquarters in Phnom Penh after government-organised demonstrations.

Forced to flee for their lives, the Khmer Rouge leadership laid down what diplomats described privately as impossible conditions before they would agree to return to Phnom Penh.

The key demand was the immediate deployment of at least 800 U.N. troops to protect the Supreme National Council (SNC), the body made up of all four factions and created to oversee the country before elections are held.

Cambodia's peace agreement, signed in Paris in October, hinges on the SNC being based in Phnom Penh.

In a bid to find a solution to the latest impasse Prince Sihanouk called a meeting of SNC members and envoys from the five security council members at Phatthaya, the Thai seaside town where the peace process first got underway earlier this year.

Immediately, representatives from the five permanent members—the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China—began a process of diplomatic arm twisting in a series of closed door meetings.

"Quite simply, we had to show the Khmer Rouge the impossibility of their demands and make it clear to Hun Sen that he should not be sponsoring demonstrations against the Khmer Rouge," said one observer closely involved with the talks.

Even the volatile Prince Sihanouk found himself coming under criticism as the international community made clear their impatience with the factions and their failure to reach agreement.

Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun, during a dinner he hosted for Prince Sihanouk, delivered a stinging rebuke to the prince, warning: "The international community awaits a positive outcome of your current meeting."

The message was not lost on the prince, who heads the SNC.

"Sihanouk acted like a real neutral chairman and not like a silly little God king," remarked one observer.

By the end of a day of talks the permanent five had put together a compromise package that ensured the return of the Khmer Rouge and the countinuation of the peace process.

"It was a good compromise," said one observer.

The diplomats were clearly pleased after their joint pressure got all sides agreeing to get back to Phnom Penh as soon as possible so the SNC could start functioning.

But despite Tuesday's agreement Cambodian sources warned that a lasting peace was still a long way off.

"There is no guarantee that such incidents will not occur in the future," said one faction member referring to last week's assault on the Khmer Rouge.

Premier Hun Sen said before returning home that he would not ban public demonstrations but vowed there would be no repetition of the violence that almost ended in the lynching of Khieu Samphan.

Further signs of the difficulty ahead were revealed when the prince called off a proposed visit to Vietnam and Laos.

He made the decision following heavy pressure from the Khmer Rouge, who were ousted from power when Vietnam invaded the country in December 1978.

"But as long as the U.N. continues to keep the pressure on all sides, then peace still has a chance," said one independent observer at the talks.

Sihanouk Praised for Requesting UN Protection

BK0412062091 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] At a reception hosted in the Thai city of Phatthaya on the night of 30 November for Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, members of the Supreme National Council [SNC], and their entourage who were recently subject to a brutally violent attack in Phnom Penh, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia and chairman of the SNC, expressed serious regret over the 27 November cruel attack on the two excellencies and their staff members. Along with this, the samdech called on the United Nations to help provide Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen and their aides with sufficient security and safety while they are staying in Phnom Penh.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's appeal clearly shows his ardent desire to see that all SNC members present in Phnom Penh have absolute security and safety so as to allow the plenipotentiary SNC to function normally at its headquarters in Phnom Penh in accordance with the Paris accord on Cambodia. The appeal also demonstrates that the samdech eagerly wants all the signatories to correctly and meticulously implement the Paris accord, thereby allowing Cambodia to recover security and peace at the earliest date and the entire Cambodian people to compromise and be reunified within their great national union around the SNC chaired by the Cambodian head of state, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk.

The samdech's wish is fully in conformity with the aspiration of the entire Cambodian people both inside and outside the country who want early independence and peace so they can reunite with their families and safely earn a living.

Sihanouk Reportedly Cancels SRV, Laos Visits

BK0412032091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0312 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Phatthaya, Thailand, Dec 4 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the head of Cambodia's reconciliation body, has cancelled a planned visit to Vietnam, Cambodian and diplomatic sources said here Wednesday.

The prince, who is the chairman of the Supreme National Council (SNC) of rival Cambodian factions, was to make an official visit to Vietnam later this month.

He also cancelled a visit to Laos, which was to take place immediately after his trip to Vietnam.

The cancellation of the visit to Vietnam came as Cambodia's fragile peace process, threatened following last week's attack in Phnom Penh against Khmer Rouge leaders, has been revived in an accord here on Tuesday.

Under the agreement, Khmer Rouge leaders Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, who last Wednesday fled Phnom Penh to Thailand for their lives, will soon return to the Cambodian capital to participate in meetings of the SNC.

The Khmer Rouge, the strongest and largest anti-government guerrilla faction, had asked Prince Sihanouk to cancel his trips to Vietnam and Hanoi-ally Laos followed, the sources said.

His decision came after he received letters from Khieu Samphan and Son Sann, the leader of another Cambodian guerrilla faction, urging him not to go to Vietnam.

The two guerrilla leaders called on the prince with their messages not to leave Cambodia at this delicate stage in the peace process, the sources said.

Hun Sen, Delegation Return to Phnom Penh 4 Dec

BK0412114091 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 4 Dec 91

["Report on the Trip Home of His Excellency Chairman of the Council of Ministers Hun Sen"]

[Text] At the end of the meeting of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC] in Phatthaya, Kingdom of Thailand, at 1130 on 4 December, His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers and SNC member, and delegation returned safely to Phnom Penh City.

Greeting H.E. Chairman of the Council of Ministers at Pochentong airport were standing members of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee, including General Bou Thang, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chief of the General Political Department of the Cambodian People's Army [CPA]; Chea Soth, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Mat Ly, vice chairman of the National Assembly and vice chairman of the Control Commission of the CPP Central Committee; Nguon Nhel, agriculture minister; Ney Pena, vice chairman of the Control Commission of the CPP Central Committee; General Sin Song, interior minister; Sim Ka, chairman of the Phnom Penh City's party committee and chairman of the city's people's committee; Senior Lieutenant General Pol Saroeun, deputy defense minister and chief of staff of the CPA; Kong Sam-ol, member of the CPP Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; officials from the CPP Central Committee; ministers, deputy ministers; directors general and deputy directors general; and many other leading officials.

Hun Sen on Security for Khmer Rouge Leaders

BK0412125191 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1121 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 4—Prime Minister Hun Sen said that he would ensure full security and safety for the Khmer Rouge leaders' life and property within a radius of 300-500 meters.

Hun Sen, who returned here from the SNC [Supreme National Council] meeting in Phatthaya today, told the journalists at Pochentong airport that "the people have the right to demonstrate, and I cannot prevent them."

The Prime Minister said: "I cannot use arms or violence against demonstrators, but I will appeal to them to be calm."

On the missing of a Khmer Rouge official during a lynch attack against the Khmer Rouge leaders in Phnom Penh last Wednesday, he said: "Mr. Kun Tieng, the Khmer Rouge official, is not dead."

He said he hoped that when Mr. Khieu Samphan comes back here Mr. Kun Tieng would present himself if he did not want to escape from the Khmer Rouge.

He said that he was pleased with the security plan worked out at Tuesday's meeting in Phatthaya, Thailand.

Under the plan the Khmer Rouge, nominally headed by Khieu Samphan, are allowed to set up a residence on the premises of the SNC headquarters in Phnom Penh, which will also house officials from the United Nations team.

Refuses To Ban Demonstrations

BK0412033691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0324 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Phatthaya, Thailand, Dec 4 (AFP)—Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen refused on Wednesday to bar further demonstrations against the Khmer Rouge when the faction's leaders return to the Cambodian capital. But he vowed there would be no repetition of last week's violence when a mob attacked the Khmer Rouge headquarters and its leaders were forced to flee the country.

"We cannot guarantee that there will be no demonstrations by the people because this is a different aspect of the exercise of human rights," said Hun Sen. "If there is any demonstration we will have to provide absolute protection."

Following last week's riot the Khmer Rouge refused to return to Phnom Penh until their safety was guaranteed, a move that threatened the Cambodian peace plan which hinges on the Supreme National Council (SNC) being based in the city.

But at a hastily called meeting here on Tuesday between the SNC, made up of all four rival Cambodian factions, and representatives of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, the Khmer Rouge agreed to go back to Phnom Penh.

Hun Sen, who was to return to the Cambodian capital today, said he was pleased with the security plan worked out at Tuesday's meeting.

"It is a good agreement," he said.

Under the accord the Khmer Rouge, nominally headed by Khieu Samphan, are allowed to set up residence in the SNC Headquarters in Phnom Penh, which will also house officials from the United Nations team. Originally the Khmer Rouge had demanded the handing over of a senior official, missing following last week's attack on their headquarters, as a precondition for their return. But the organisation, who claims the man is being held hostage, later agreed to suspend the demand.

On Wednesday Hun Sen said he did not know where the missing Khmer Rouge official was but hinted that he would soon show up.

"I have the feeling that once the delegation of Khieu Samphan is back in Phnom Penh he will present himself to the delegation," said the premier.

SRV Accused of Organizing Attack on Leaders

BK0412123991 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Station article: "Who Should Correctly and Meticulously Implement the Accord To End the Vietnamese War of Aggression Against Cambodia?"]

[Text] The peace accord to end the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia was officially, legally, and solemnly signed in the presence of the Supreme National Council [SNC] chaired by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk—head of the State of Cambodia—the 18 country members of the Paris international conference, and the United Nations on 23 October 1991.

The Cambodian people and all Cambodian soldiers and agents forced by the Vietnamese aggressors to serve their interests were happy and hoped that the Vietnamese war of aggression would come to an end, thereby allowing Cambodia to recover genuine independence, peace, and neutrality and the Cambodian people to live in tranquillity. Yet, the people and the Cambodian soldiers and agents were terribly furious after having learned that on 27 November, a small group of criminals, who were mixed among the Cambodian people and abetted and funded by foreigners, stormed the Phnom Penh residence of Their Excellencies Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, members of the SNC, smashing property and robbing valuables and money belonging to the leaders of the party of Democratic Kampuchea and members of the SNC chaired by Cambodia's head of state, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk.

The Cambodian people and the Cambodian soldiers and agents are absolutely opposed to the attack and consider it a crime committed by inhuman foreigners to create conflict among the Cambodians and play both ends against the middle for the purpose of destroying the peace accord to end the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia. The entire Cambodian people in and outside the country want the SNC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk to begin functioning in Phnom Penh, the capital city of the Cambodian nation. They want the peace accord ending the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia to be implemented in a correct and meticulous manner.

Some diplomats in Phnom Penh and Thailand have asked how the Phnom Penh authorities' inability to guarantee security for the SNC members, causing trouble to the party of Democratic Kampuchea, would affect implementation of the peace accord.

The fact that the SNC is not able to organize its own meeting in Phnom Penh constitutes a very serious problem. How will the Cambodian nation, people, and history record this event? And who should correctly and meticulously implement the peace accord? The Cambodian people, soldiers, and agents as well as Cambodian residents abroad have already found for themselves the answers to these questions.

SRV Denies Involvement in Khieu Samphan Attack

BK0412120491 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1125 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 4—The spokesman of the Vietnamese Embassy in Phnom Penh on Dec. 3 issued a press release rejecting a report broadcast on Dec. 2 by the Khmer Rouge radio and repeated by the RFI [Radio France International] and BBC that the violent acts against the Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan were incited and led by a group of Vietnamese in Phnom Penh.

The press release said: The spokesman of the Embassy of the S.R. of Vietnam in Phnom Penh is authorized to declare that this information was made up with ill intention, that the incident concerning Mr. Khieu Samphan is entirely an internal affair of Cambodia and that Vietnam always respects the Paris accord on Cambodia and supports the process of national reconciliation in Cambodia.

Rumors About Student Clashes in SRV Denied

BK0412115891 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1110 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 04th—The Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the Supreme National Council of Cambodia [SNC] on December 3 issued a communique informing the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Education and the Mass Media of the State of Cambodia of the following:

Recently there have been rumors at some schools in Phnom Penh, especially where Vietnamese experts and students are working and studying, that in Thu Duc, Ho Chi Minh City, there have been clashes between Cambodian and Vietnamese students, resulting in the death of some Cambodian students.

Hearing of this news, the Vietnamese Embassy has requested the offices concerned in Vietnam to inspect and make [words indistinct].

On Nov. 30, 1991, the Director of the External Affairs Office in Ho Chi Minh City gave this reply: There was no clash whatever between Cambodian and Vietnamese students in Thu Duc or anywhere else. The abovementioned rumors were fabricated to divide the peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia.

In order to help the public understand the truth and reassure those families whose children are studying in Vietnam, the Vietnamese Embassy requests the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Education and the Mass Media of the State of Cambodia to take measures to stop such rumors.

On this occasion, the Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam once again expresses its high considerations to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Education and the mass media of the State of Cambodia.

Hun Sen Receives Message From SRV Premier

BK2811101491 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Text] His Excellency Hun Sen, chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, recently received a message of thanks from His Excellency Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the SRV's Council of Ministers.

The message chiefly says:

I would like to sincerely thank Your Excellency for the greetings on my 69th birthday anniversary.

May Your Excellency have the best of health, longevity, and happiness.

Sihanouk Greets Lao Leaders on National Day

BK0412133491 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1114 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 4—Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of the State of Cambodia and president of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia (SNC), has sent a congratulatory message to H.E. Mr. Kaysone Phomvihan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, on the 16th founding anniversary of the Republic (Dec. 2).

In his message of Nov. 30, the prince said:

"On the 16th anniversary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, I am pleased to address to you, in the name of the Cambodian people and the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, my best wishes for the happiness and prosperity of the fraternal Lao people.

"I firmly believe that my coming visit in the near future to your beautiful country will allow us to work together for the development of the very good traditional and time-honored relations of friendship between our two peoples."

"I beg you, Your Excellency, to accept my highest considerations," he concluded.

Chea Sim Thanks Lao Leaders for Greetings

BK3011081491 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee, recently sent a message of thanks to His Excellency Kaysone Phoumvihan, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee. The message says in essence:

I would like to express most sincere thanks for the warm greetings you sent me on the occasion of my appointment as chairman of the CPP Central Committee.

I am convinced that the relations of solidarity, friendship, and multiform cooperation between our two governments and people will further develop, be strengthened, and last forever.

May you enjoy good health and score new and greater successes in your noble tasks.

Chea Sim Receives IMF, ADB Delegation 3 Dec

BK0412075091 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] On the morning of 3 Dec at the National Assembly, His Excellency Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee, National Assembly, and National Council of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense, received a delegation of the International Monetary Fund and the Asian Development Bank led by (Horikoshi).

Their discussion concentrated mainly on the distribution of aid for restoring and rebuilding Cambodia ruined by the war which lasted for several years.

UN Military Team Leaves Phnom Penh 3 Dec

BK0412094991 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0418 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 4 Dec (SPK)—The UN military mission led by General Timothy Dibuama, military adviser to the UN Secretary General, left Phnom Penh on 3 December at the end of a 10-day visit to Cambodia.

General Timothy Dibuama will visit zones controlled by the other side via Thailand to conduct a study within the framework of the peace agreement signed on 23 October in Paris.

The UN mission was seen off by General Ke Kimyan, first deputy defense minister of the State of Cambodia, and others. The UN mission had worked with officials of the Defense Ministry on the military aspect of the implementation of the Paris agreement.

Timothy Dibuama and his suite were received by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, SNC [Supreme National Council] president, and Prime Minister Hun Sen. They also visited some military installations of the State of Cambodia in Kompong Som City and Battambang Province, naval and air units, and the arsenal at Thmat Pong.

General Addresses Meeting on Front Anniversary

BK0412133591 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Apparent excerpt of speech by Lieutenant General Tha Thanchan, deputy chief of the General Political Department of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces, to mark the 13th founding anniversary of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense, at 2 December meeting held at Defense Ministry — recorded]

[Text] The situation in the world has developed rapidly and the Cambodian problem has now reached the threshold of a political solution. All these factors are attributable to the all-out efforts made by the party and government of our State of Cambodia [SOC] with genuine goodwill to end the war which has dragged on for over two decades.

As a matter of fact, our party and government, in serving the interests of our nation and people, have made every effort to restore and build the economy to bring prosperity to our society. Especially through the spirit of national reconciliation and by sincerely implementing the Paris agreement on Cambodia, our Cambodian People's Party [CPP] and Government have upheld the honor of and provided all favorable conditions for the return of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk and his royal consort and the royal family to join with our SOC and all SNC members in an advance toward peace and national reconstruction.

This [words indistinct] the samdech and our CPP and SOC Government. The samdech has given justice to our regime and is confident in the correct and wise leadership of our party. In addition to his neutral stance, the samdech has publicly pledged to respect and not interfere in the affairs of our SOC Government. To avoid a new political crisis, our CPP and SOC Government have publicly declared their joint recognition of Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk as remaining the fully legal and legitimate head of the State of Cambodia from 1970 to the holding of a free, correct, and fair presidential election in 1993.

Briefly speaking, the party [words indistinct] serve the interests of national reconciliation and defend social gains by regarding the samdech as the prince father of the nation and of our CPP.

In the current situation, we must clearly grasp our duty, that is to defend social gains, bring prosperity to the country, and prevent the return of the past catastrophe. To realize this goal, the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF] and the FUNCINPEC [National United

Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] have signed an historic alliance to cooperate with each other for the noble cause of national reconciliation, peace, democracy, and national defense and construction.

Cadres and combatants in the Army should enhance your heroic spirit and correctly implement the cease-fire on the spot by strictly respecting the Paris peace agreement on Cambodia and not doing anything that affects the peace agreement and the spirit of national reconciliation. You should consolidate internal unity, strictly abide by Army discipline, unite closely with the people to become a combined force of the nation under the leadership of the CPP and the front, make all-out efforts to successfully prevent the return of the past catastrophe, continue implementing the CPP political program, promote all (?tasks) adopted by the party's extraordinary session, and strive to build [words indistinct] living a life-style and good ethics worthy of being in the people's Army.

Gentlemen, dear comrades and combatants: on this auspicious occasion, I would like to express sincere thanks and wholehearted commendation to all our cadres and combatants who have contributed to making our land of Angkor develop rapidly. The light of peace is drawing near.

Under the beacon of the front's 2 December spirit, we had liberated the nation from genocide and the political solution to the Cambodian problem (?has been achieved). Therefore, it requires all parties to effectively implement the spirit of the Paris peace agreement.

Our people's worry still exists. In such a situation, the 2 December spirit remains forever valuable and a symbol of the spirit of struggle and unity—the source and factor deciding our victory.

Once again, on behalf of the entire Army and in my own name, I wish the Presidium members, cadres, and combatants good health and success in all tasks assigned by the people. [applause]

Long live the 2 December spirit! [applause]

Indonesia

Libya Seeks To Establish Embassy in Jakarta

BK0412114291 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1016 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Jakarta, Dec 4 (OANA-ANTARA)—Libya in the very near future wants to open its embassy in Jakarta, following the opening of diplomatic relations between the two countries recently, and Indonesia is also expected to do so in the Libyan capital city of Tripoli.

In a statement to newsmen after paying a courtesy call on Vice President Sudharmono at the Merdeka Selatan Palace on Wednesday, Libyan Parliament Speaker 'Abd-al-Raziq Sawsa' said that Indonesia promised full support for the opening of the Libyan embassy in Jakarta.

Sawsa' was sent by Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to meet Indonesian officials to explain the Tripoli government's position against accusations of the United States that several Libyan citizens were involved in the explosion of a Pan Am plane in Scotland in December 1988.

In that accident, 270 U.S and other passengers lost their lives and the U.S. was demanding from the Libyan Government the surrender of two of its citizens.

"We are willing to cooperate with various neutral institutions to investigate the problem", Sawsa' said on arrival in Jakarta at dawn on Wednesday.

Minister of Foreign Affairs A.I. L.B. Murdani who accompanied the Libyan speaker on a separate occasion said that Vice President Sudharmono promised to convey President Qadhdhafi's message to President Suharto.

Murdani said that the Libyan president's special envoy had previously visited Pakistan and India, he would leave Jakarta on Thursday (December 5) for Malaysia.

In the meantime reports from Tunis said that State Minister at the British Foreign Office, Douglas Hogg, had said that it was not out of the question that a possible military action would be carried out against Libya in case that country refused to surrender its two citizens accused of involvement in the Pan Am plane bombing.

Minister Urges Caution in Fixing Oil Price

BK2811115691 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0632 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Text] Vienna, Nov 28 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesian Minister of Mines and Energy Ginanjar Kartasasmita has warned that Indonesia should be cautious in fixing the oil price in its forthcoming draft national budget, although the oil price in the world market is at present showing an improvement.

Ginanjar Kartasasmita made these remarks to ANTARA here on Wednesday when he explained about the impact of the agreement of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) on Indonesia's national interest.

Asked about the price of oil which should be fixed in the 1992/1993 draft budget, he declined to give an exact answer. He only said: "Better not exceeding the 19 U.S. dollars per barrel".

He further stressed that the importance of an extraordinary cautious attitude in fixing the oil price in the draft national budget was to anticipate possible price fluctuations in the world market.

The 90th session of the OPEC conference which took place since Tuesday and attended by the oil ministers from the 13 member countries of the OPEC, on Wednesday evening reached a consensus to sustain the level of production at 23.65 million barrels per day until the first quarter of 1992.

OPEC groups Algeria, Ecuador, Gabon, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), and Venezuela.

The OPEC oil ministers in a communique announced by OPEC Secretary General Prof. Dr. Subroto, reiterated their commitment in achieving a minimum reference price of 21 U.S. dollars per barrel for OPEC crude oil.

The OPEC conference also elected Nigerian Oil Minister Prof. Jibril Aminu OPEC president and UAE Oil Minister Yusuf bin Yusuf alternate president.

The OPEC conference further agreed to hold a ministerial monitoring commission meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, on February 12, 1992, to fix OPEC's level of production in the second quarter of 1992.

The conference also gave further directives on the implementation of an international seminar on the environment to be organized by the OPEC in April 1992.

The seminar which will be attended by participants from the OPEC countries, international oil companies, non-governmental organizations, international research institutes and business, trade and industrial leaders, will discuss environmental problems and pollution caused by oil.

The results of the 90th session of the OPEC conference were achieved after last consultations were held between OPEC President Jibril Aminu, Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita and OPEC Secretary General Subroto.

The next OPEC conference will be held in Vienna, Austria, on May 1992, after being preceded by a MMC [expansion unknown] meeting on May 19, 1992.

Minister Outlines Official, Private Foreign Debts

BK2911101891 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 21 Nov 91 p 1

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—Minister of Finance J.B. Sumarlin said yesterday that Indonesia's official foreign debts, outstanding as of the end of September, totaled U.S. $42.2 billion and the overseas debts of the private sector $14 billion.

Sumarlin told a meeting with the House Budgetary Commission that $13.93 billion of the government debts were derived from government creditors, $12.92 billion from multilateral aid agencies, and $14.21 billion from export and other commercial loans.

He said government debt interest and installment payments during the first semester (April-September) of the current fiscal year (1991/92) amounted to Rp. [rupiah] 6.84 trillion ($3.45 billion) or 48.5 percent of the total budgeted for the year.

The minister estimated debt service and principal payments during the second semester to be slightly larger than those in the first semester due partly to the rupiah's depreciation against the American dollar.

Security Minister On Country's 2 'Major Threats'

BK0312130291 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] Sudomo, minister for politics and security, said Indonesia still faces two major threats in the future that could affect its national stability and development. The two threats are the latent danger posed by the extreme leftist and rightist groups while the other is the social process of disassociation.

Speaking at the opening of a lecture for participants from the National Academy of Internal Administration in Jakarta today, Minister Sudomo stated that the two threats have currently become a major issue—the first in conjunction with Indonesia's national stability, while the second major issue is the dilemma between national stability and democracy.

According to the minister, the dilemma emerges from numerous limitations in the effort to uphold national stability while implementing democracy with but limited freedom.

Legislators Call for Calm Over UN Envoy's Visit

BK0412112091 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0955 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Jakarta, Dec 4 (OANA-ANTARA)—Legislators said here Wednesday that there was no need to be "nervous" about the visit of the UN Secretary General's envoy to Indonesia to obtain information about the November 12 Dili incident.

"The fact is East Timor belongs to Indonesia. Therefore, whoever the UN Secretary General's envoy is going to talk to, we have no reason to be nervous," Ipik Atmasubrata of the House's Foreign and Defense/Security Affairs Commission said.

The Jakarta UN Information Center Tuesday afternoon issued a press release, saying that UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar had sent S. Amos Wako [name as received], a Kenyan lawyer and human rights authority to Indonesia, to obtain information about the Dili incident.

The center further said that Jan Martenson, Director General of the UN office in Geneva and Under-Secretary General for Human Rights was already in touch with the Indonesian Government on that visit.

The secretary general had also expressed the hope that the Indonesian Government would provide him with all the necessary facilities in order to fulfill his mission.

Commander of the Indonesian Armed Forces (ABRI) Gen. Try Sutrisno said at a hearing with the parliament (DPR) recently, the incident took place after the mob brutally attacked security officers, forcing the latter to adopt a stern measure.

He said the incident claimed 19 lives and injured 91.

The Foreign Ministry until Tuesday evening was unable to confirm the planned visit of Wako.

Atmasubrata went on to say, "The important thing now is to clearly state that East Timor is part of Indonesia. Anyone trying to disturb the fact, will have to face the whole nation. I am sure that in this case, all Indonesians will back the government."

Commenting on the planned visit of Wako, Marzuki Darusman also of the House Foreign and Defense/Security Affairs Commission, said "It would be better for us to welcome the envoy for the sake of 'institutional relations' between Indonesia and the UN.

He said the government should avoid "uncooperative" attitude regarding the visit, especially because Indonesia was a member of the UN Human Rights Commission and had always intended to put the East Timor issue within the human rights framework.

"First of all, we must find out what is the purpose of his visit here," he said.

Darusman, however, also reminded that should Wako came with "investigative" mission, the government must stand firm and say that although there could be international aspects in the Dili incident, it was Indonesia's sovereign rights to settle all problems related to it.

Wako's planned visit could be viewed as an attitude doubting the integrity and objectivity of the just set up Independent National Investigation Commission (KPN), Darusman said, reminding that "an a priori attitude towards the KPN will lead nowhere."

Minister Rejects 'Special Status' for East Timor

BK0412113391 Hong Kong AFP in English 1109 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Jakarta, Dec 4 (AFP)—Indonesian Home Affairs Minister Rudini has rejected calls to give East Timor a "special" status like Aceh in northern Sumatra and Yogyakarta in Java, newspapers reported Wednesday.

Rudini said that East Timor, where the shooting of civilians by Indonesian troops last month in the capital Dili caused an international outcry, would not gain any advantage from a special status.

"I can change the name now, but what good will it do?" he asked.

Officials said the "special" status of Aceh and Yogyakarta was only symbolic and all 27 provincial governors, including East Timor's Mario Viegas Carrascalao, come under the Home Affairs Ministry.

Rudini said that instead of creating a special administrative status for East Timor "it is better to create more profitable rules."

"East Timor export commodities could be shipped directly from Dili instead of from Surabaya (East Java). So the profit goes to East Timor," he was quoted as saying in the KOMPAS daily.

This comment toes the official line that economic woes and high unemployment are behind East Timor's unrest since it was annexed by Indonesia in 1976.

Rudini was replying to a proposal by MP Marzuki Darusman of the ruling Golkar party that the former Portuguese colony should be given a special status.

Darusman did not elaborate, only making a comparison with Aceh and Yogyakarta.

According to diplomatic sources here some countries including Australia want Indonesia to create a special status for East Timor which does not jeopardise its incorporation into Indonesia.

No foreign power has defined special status. But Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke has talked of a "cultural" identity for East Timor.

Rudini said that despite the "special" tags for Aceh and Yogyakarta, their administration was no different from the rest of the country.

He said Aceh, where Islamic feelings and parochialism have fanned unrest for years, and Yogyakarta, the former capital, gained their "special" status because of their role in the independence struggle against the Dutch.

Meanwhile, Australian Ambassador Philip Flood told ANTARA NEWS AGENCY the reopening of a consulate in Dili, which was closed down in 1971, would be discussed during the official visit of Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans later this month.

Flood arrived in Dili on Tuesday, as a guest of Carrascalao. He is also scheduled to meet Roman Catholic Bishop Carlos Felipe Ximenes Belo and the army commander in East Timor, Brigadier General Rudolf Warouw.

East Timorese Opposition Welcomes EEC Stance

LD0312214891 Lisbon RDP Comercial Radio Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Excerpts] The EEC has taken a united stance against Indonesia. The Twelve [members] have implicitly recognized the illegality of the annexation of East Timor. This is the first time that such a stance has been collectively adopted, and the foreign ministers of the Twelve have also voiced the intention to reappraise all aspects of cooperation with Jakarta. [passage omitted]

Paulo Pires, a spokesman for the Timor Democratic Union [UDT], has welcomed the EEC statement. However the East Timorese resistance would like to see the immediate implementation of sanctions against Indonesia.

[Begin Pires recording] This is very good news, both for us abroad and for our compatriots in the interior. It is in fact the first time that such an important body has adopted a clear stand condemning Indonesia.

We believe it would be good if a second step were taken, specifically the application of concrete sanctions and an arms embargo against Indonesia. [end recording]

Laos

Kaysone Receives Greetings From Gorbachev

BK0412105691 Vientiane KPL in English 0921 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 4 (KPL)—President Kaysone Phomvihan, on occasion of the 16th founding anniversary of the Lao PDR [People's Democratic Republic], has received a message of greetings and best wishes of success from the Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Soviet president expressed in the message that despite the difficult situation currently in the Soviet Union, ties of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Laos is maintained and will be further developed to the interest of peace and global stability.

Somlat Chanthamat Attends SRV Troupe Premiere

BK0212052091 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] The SRV youth arts and musical troupe gave their premiere friendship performance at Vientiane theater on the evening of 29 November 1991 sponsored by the Ministry of Information and Culture and the SRV Embassy in Laos to welcome the 16th anniversary of the 2 December national day.

Attending as honorable guests were Somlat Chanthamat, Political Bureau member and head of the Propaganda and Training Board of the party Central Committee; and ministers and deputy ministers from many ministries. Nguyen Xuan, SRV ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos, and a number of foreign diplomats in Laos also attended the soiree.

The performance took place in an atmosphere of friendship and jubilation. The troupe drew strong applause and admiration from the audience with their dances, singing, and sketches.

Named "Sun Flowers", the troupe has 19 performers and a number of auxiliary cast. They arrived in the LPDR—the first visit to our country—on 28 November. They are scheduled to present three friendship performances in the municipality and three more in Vientiane Province.

Minister Greets Cuban Counterpart on Army Day

BK0212112791 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0430 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Message of greetings, dated 2 December, from Lieutenant General Choummali Sai-gnason, minister of national defense of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, to General Raul Castro Ruz, minister of the revolutionary armed forces of Cuba on the occasion of the founding anniversary of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces]

[Text] Respected comrade minister, on the occasion of the 36th founding anniversary of the fraternal Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba, on behalf of the leading committee, cadres, and combatants in the entire Lao People's Army [LPA] and in my own name, I am very pleased to convey hearty salutations and best wishes to you, comrade, and through you to the leading committee, cadres, and combatants in the entire fraternal Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba.

I would like to express my sincere commendation of the great achievements and victories of the fraternal Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces and people in carrying out the cause of defending and building their socialist country throughout the past 36 years. Our LPA has always attentively followed the building, growth, development, and all the victories of the Cuban people and Revolutioanry Armed forces. We are convinced that the fraternal Cuban people, under the clear-sighted and resolute leadership of the Communist Party of Cuba, with beloved and respected Comrade Fidel Castro as head, will be able to win new, still greater victories in the cause of defending and building socialism under the new circumstances, and that the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba will be increasingly consolidated, strengthened, and developed so that they significantly contribute to safeguarding peace and stability in Latin America and the world.

We hope that the relations of friendship, militant solidarity, and cooperation between the two nations and the two Armies of Laos and Cuba will be further promoted, expanded, and enhanced.

We wish you, comrade minister, good health, happiness, and great success in performing your noble cause.

Telecommunications Network Inaugurated 28 Nov

BK3011115591 Vientiane KPL in English 0932 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] Vientiane, Nov 30 (KPL)—A new telecommunication network built with French gratis aid was inaugurated here on Nov 28. The facilities include the new modern 34 magabite equipment of microwave linking

Vientiane capital and Paksan (150 km south), costing 4.8 million francs and a new telex centre with 450 lines costing over 9.1 million francs.

The inauguration ceremony was presided by Mr. Thongsavat Paseut, deputy minister of communication, transport, post and construction and Mr. Daniel Dupont, French ambassador to Laos. Also on hand were high ranking officials including Mr. Bouathong, CTPC [Communications, Transport, Posts, and Construction] minister.

The French Government, in the next phase within the same framework, has already agreed to fund the installation of the microwave link between Vientiane-Luang Prabang-Oudomsai, which will cost about two million dollars.

Greetings Received From 'Friendly' Countries

BK0312111191 Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 3 (KPL)—Mr. Kaysone Phomvihan, president of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, president of the Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic], and other Lao party and state leaders, have received messages of greetings on the 16th founding anniversary of the Lao PDR (2nd December) from party and state leaders of various fraternal and friendly countries.

The greeting messages the Lao leaders have received so far are from Vietnam, Cambodia, China, DPRK, Mongolia, Poland, and the United States.

All the foreign leaders congratulated over socioeconomic achievements in Laos as a result of the implemented renovation policy in all areas in the country and wished the Lao leaders and people new success and prosperity. They were also convinced of the further developed relations of friendship and cooperation between their respective countries and the Lao PDR.

In their joint message, the Vietnamese leaders expressed satisfaction over the strong growth of Vietnamese-Lao relations of special solidarity and all-round cooperation, especially according to a recent agreement reached between the two countries' leadership during President Kaysone Phomvihan's last visit to Vietnam.

On his part, Prince Nordodom Sihanouk, on behalf of the Supreme National Council of the State of Cambodia, showed his firm conviction that his immediate visit to Laos will favor the two countries to joint efforts in development of very good traditional relations of friendship between Cambodian and Lao peoples.

Leaders Lay Wreaths in Honor of National Day

BK0212051191 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 2 Nov 91

[Text] On the occasion of the celebration of the 16th founding anniversary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], yesterday morning our party and state leaders led by Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] and president of state; Khamtai Siphandon, Political Bureau member of the LPRP Central Committee [CC] and prime minister; advisers to the LPRP CC—Phoumi Vongvichit and Sisomphon Lovansai; Political Bureau members of the LPRP CC; members of the LPRP CC; members of the standing committee of the Supreme People's Council and of the standing committee of the Council of Ministers; and representatives of mass organizations laid wreaths at the Monument of Revolutionary Combatants to commemorate those fighters and multiethnic people who have sacrificed their lives for the country and people as well as for the revolutionary cause.

After that, the leadership of the National Defense Ministry led by Lieutenant General Choummali Sai-gnason, Political Bureau member of the LPRP CC and national defense minister, also laid a wreath at the monument.

On the same morning, the party and administrative committees of Vientiane Municipality led by Oudom Khatthi-gna, Political Bureau member of the LPRP CC, secretary of the party committee, and chairman of the administrative committee of Vientiane Municipality, laid a wreath at the monument to commemorate the fighters and people who have sacrificed their lives for the revolution. Afterward, Oudom Khatthi-gna led the municipal party and administrative committees to pay visits to the military hospital of the municipal military command at Nong Seng, Hospital No. 103 at Sok Pa Louang, and Setthathilat Hospital. On behalf of the visitors, Oudom Kghatthi-gna presented gifts to patients in those hospitals.

Party, State Leaders Visit Vientiane Hospitals

BK0412134191 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1400 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] On the occasion of the 16th founding anniversary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, our party and state leaders visited medical cadres and doctors, cadres, combatants, and multiethnic people at various hospitals in Vientiane Muncipality. The first group of our leaders headed by Lieutenant General Choummali Sai-ngason, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Political Bureau and national defense minister, visited Military Hospital 103. Oudom Khatthi-gna, member of the party Central Committee Political Committee and Secretariat, and governor of Vientiane Municipality led the second group to visit the 150-bed hospital. The third group led by Somlat Chanthamat, member of the party Central Committee Political

Bureau and head of the party Central Committee Propaganda and Training Board, visited Mahosot Hospital.

After hearing reports on the operation of each hospital, our party and state leaders chatted with medical cadres and doctors and encouraged them to enhance their revolutionary spirit in rendering medical services to the people and study and apply new medical science to futher improve the effectiveness of operations.

Our party and state leaders also visited cadres, combatants, and people who were receiving medical treatments at those hospitals and wished them recovery and good health so that they will be able to return to their units and home to continue contributing to national development. They also distributed necessary consumer goods to each hospital.

Vientiane Rally Marks National Day Anniversary

BK0312120491 Vientiane KPL in English 0916 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 2 (KPL)—A public rally was held at the national theatre here on Dec 2 to mark the 16th founding anniversary of the Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic].

Addressing the 150 strong rally, Oudom Khatthi-gna, member of the Politburo of the LPRP CC [Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee], party secretary of Vientiane prefecture and mayor of Vientiane capital, talked about the significance of the day.

He said in the past 16 years, Vientiane people along with the entire Lao people united as one force, have actively taken part in strategic tasks of national building and defence.

Pointing out about new positive development, Oudom Khatthi-gna said more and more farmers have taken up intensive agriculture, and doing so no few families have achieved 6-7 tons of rice yield per hectare.

There has also been encouraging development in industrial, handicraft activities along with trade, Oudom Khatthi-gna said.

Speaking about the immediate tasks of the people in 1992, Oudom Khatthi-gna said efforts must be put into furthering activities down at the grass-roots level (?fairly) promoting agroforestry, industry and services. In addition, concerted efforts are to be paid on upgrading educational, cultural and public health work. He also talked about the need to improve the organization and functioning of the state machinery.

Kaysone Phomvihan Greets Hmong New Year 29 Nov

BK0112143791 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Greetings message from Kaysone Phomvihan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic—LPDR, to the Hmong ethnic people on the occasion of the traditional Boun Kin Chiang new year festival—dated 29 November]

[Text] On the occasion of your Boun Kin Chiang traditional new year festival this year, I would like to extend my best wishes to all Lao-Hmong compatriots both at home and abroad. In particular, I would like to extend my warm greetings to all Lao-Hmong tribal chiefs, senior people, national heroes, emulation combatants, and those Lao-Hmong families or individual persons who have committed virtuous deeds toward the nation and people.

Our beloved nation is composed of many ethnic groups. All these ethnic groups have lived together in equality. They have held aloft the tradition of patriotism, unity, national concord, mutual affection, and mutual assistance within the unified pan-Lao family.

As for the Lao-Hmong ethnic compatriots, who constitute an extremely important component of the national family, they have maintained a tradition of profound patriotism, a spirit of steadfast and undaunted fighting, and a sense of unity and harmony in living with other ethnic Lao groups. The outstanding heroic deeds, the noble, sacrificial spirit, and the great contributions made by all Lao-Hmong people, cadres, party members, and heroic fighters to the common victory of our people have been recorded in the annals of our nation and have become the pride of our people. At the same time, our Hmong compatriots are also very diligent in carrying out production and are resolved to change the life-style, cherish and safeguard the fine Hmong tribal customs and traditional culture, and enrich and help develop the multiform and multicolor culture of our nation.

For a long time our party and government have firmly pursued the policy of promoting unity and equality among the various ethnic groups. We have never ceased our efforts to solve the fundamental problems of the Hmong and other ethnic compatriots by trying to raise their production standard as well as to gradually improve the material and moral life of the people of all ethnic groups throughout the country and to create overall favorable conditions for all ethnic groups to further promote and broaden their capabilities. At the same time, we have paid attention to educating and training the multiethnic people to hold aloft a sense of nationalism, unification, oneness, patriotism, love of the new regime, and self-reliance; to march forward alongside one another among all ethnic groups; to do away with the ethnic thinking of narrow-mindedness and inferiority; to be vigilant toward the divisive, subversive, and destructive designs of the hostile forces; and to take part in maintaining public security and order in the country and in carrying out national development and construction.

Through the above-mentioned process, the number of Lao-Hmong ethnic cadres has now grown larger and larger. Many of them have been entrusted with duties in the leading organizations at various levels. In addition, the number of Lao-Hmong ethnic cadres who have received higher education and training in various fields is also increasing with every passing day.

Nonetheless, the party and government fully realize that our compatriots of various multiethnic groups, especially those living in mountainous and remote areas, are still faced with numerous difficulties. That is why the party and government have devised a comprehensive rural development plan with the use of various appropriate capital sources. All economic sectors have been encouraged to actively participate in this plan and the government has adopted a policy of giving promotion to them.

The party and government firmly believe that the Hmong and other ethnic compatriots will unite as one to resolutely fight against all designs and acts employed by the enemies aimed at creating rifts and to cooperate with one another in developing, building, and defending the country for the well-being of the people and for the prosperity and progress of our country.

Beloved Lao-Hmong compatriots, your Boun Kin Chiang new year festival is a fine custom which you maintain every year. It reflects your happiness over the harvest achievements gained through your hard work throughout the year. It is also an occasion for all you Hmong ethnic people to gather together to express your unity, compassion, gratitude, and thanks for mutual hospitality and assistance; to pay respect to senior people; and to select spouses for young men and women. Therefore, it can be said that the festival comprehensively reflects the tradition, spirit, and life-style of the Lao-Hmong ethnic compatriots.

I would like to seize this important occasion of the Lao-Hmong ethnic compatriots to wish all Hmong tribal chiefs and senior people good health and long life so as to remain as the pillar of unity and oneness among the collective Lao family.

May all you Hmong ethnic cadres, party members, and combatants attain success in your work.

May all Hmong ethnic compatriots celebrate the Boun Kin Chiang new year festival with happiness and joy so that we can further hold aloft our fine tradition in encouraging one another to engage in earning our livelihood in accordance with a new style and to build and defend our country in order to bring peace and prosperity to it, thereby contributing to the common cause of our nation.

As for those Hmong compatriots living overseas, I would convince all of you to always realize that our country is always ready to welcome back those compatriots who are sincere in returning to the country to contribute to the cause of defending and building this beloved fatherland.

Luang Prabang Said To Face Rice Shortage

BK0412134691 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] (Bounchan Mikeosavat), deputy head of the agriculture and forestry service of Luang Prabang Province disclosed that 8,702 hectares was put under the cultivation of monsoon rice in the province this year and 197 hectares out of the figure was newly opened paddyfield. Farmers actually planted rice on 8,296 hectares. The acreage of the highland cultivating area was recorded at over 60,000 hectares, but only over 50,000 hectares could be put into production. This year's natural disasters such as droughts, floods, and pests heavily damaged more than 6,400 hectares. The total rice production of the province this year is estimated at only 19,900 tons of paddy while the demand for local consumption is at as high as over 140,030 tons. Therefore, the province will face a rice shortage of over 122,000 tons.

In order to compensate the rice crop damage, the province plans to put over 1,400 hectare under the cultivation of dry-season rice, especially the areas to be affected by rice shortage and encourage farmers to grow some other starchy and industrial crops.

Chamber of Commerce Holds First Meeting 29 Nov

BK0412135091 Vientiane KPL in English 0925 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 4 (KPL)—Members of the Lao Chamber of Commerce, on Nov 29 met for the first time since its establishment at the Mekong Restaurant.

Present at the gathering were Khamphoui Keoboualapha, deputy prime minister, minister of economy, planning and finance, and Phao Bounnaphon, minister of external economic relations.

The participants exchanged views on the role of business people in socioeconomic development and their legal rights protected by the state.

Speaking to businessmen, Khamphoui Keoboualapha said that the economic situation in the country is some what stabilized and called upon the private business sector to help maintain such a condition.

On the question of closing logging business, Mr. Khamphoui Keoboualapha said at present there is a need to close the forest for inventory purpose and to curb forest and environment destruction. Otherwise, it would not only affect the social life but the climatic condition, and directly affect agricultural sector. The date when the forest will be opened again will be later informed.

He also talked about the involvement of foreign investors for the benefits of socioeconomic development which is imperative to gain modern technology and scientific advancement.

As far as tourism is concerned Mr. Khamphoui Keoboualapha said we would have to look into the question of adequate and good services to visitors. And doing so, we would have to be careful as what is appropriate for the country and people.

Editorial on Enhancing Revolutionary Tradition

BK0212041191 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 2 Dec 91

[PASASON 2 December editorial: "Let Us Enhance the Revolutionary Tradition and Profoundly and Comprehensively Promote the Restructuring Cause"]

[Text] Today, the multiethnic Lao people throughout the country are joyously welcoming the 16th anniversary of the nation's great event of 2 December—the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR].

A period of 16 years seems to be very short when compared to the long period of national history. But during this period, under the leadership of the party, the Lao people have made numerous great successes and won many victories characterized with firm steps in many fields. First of all, we have paved the way for the emergence of the national economic structure comprising agriculture, forestry, industry, and services at varying degrees throughout the country. The market economy under the state macromanagement has been concretized. Many economic sectors have further enhanced their positive roles in our efforts to dismantle the natural and seminatural economy, thus allowing the goods economy to emerge in the initial stage. Our economic relations with foreign countries have been broadened while our economic structure has been consolidated. Many networks of communications and transport routes have been built. The finance, monetary, and banking sectors have been revitalized with firm steps and have become positive means for the management of state, business activities, and production promotion. Trade has been vigorously developed; markets broadened; annual national revenues increased; and the living conditions of the multiethnic people gradually improved.

Education, cultural, and social work has also been consolidated and developed. New cultural foundations have been built to reasonably contribute to the socioeconomic development and restructuring in our country. In the past years, our national defense and public security maintenance work has been gradually consolidated and strengthened. The entire multiethnic Lao people have united as one in implementing the two strategic tasks of safeguarding and defending the independence, sovereignty, political stability, and social order and ensuring that people are able to carry out work in peace.

Our country's other victory of historic significance is the creation and promulgation of the first Constitution of the LPDR to ensure the right to mastership of the multiethnic people and to become the foundation for further building and developing the popular democratic regime in our country.

Our party's foreign policy of peace, independence, friendship, and cooperation has been implemented in a broader scope than before. Our relations of friendship, special solidarity, and all-round cooperation with Vietnam and Cambodia have been enhanced and developed with new quality. Our solidarity with the Soviet Union has been preserved and safeguarded. Our traditional relations of friendship and cooperation with the PRC have been restored and comprehensively broadened. The enhancement of peace and friendship as a good neighbor with the Kingdom of Thailand has made satisfactory progress. Our relations with the industrialized countries, international organizations, and the Nonaligned Movement for peace and development have been incessantly increased, thereby positively and effectively contributing to the tasks of national defense and national construction of our people.

All these successes and victories are not accidental but have stemmed from the fact that our party's and government's policies conform to reality and the party leadership is always creative and skillful. They are the achievements of the unity and oneness of the entire multiethnic compatriots and their compassion toward the nation and revolution, which has led to the formation of the united great Lao national family to walk determinedly in the direction charted by the party, to overcome all trials, to resist all subversive designs of the enemies, to compete with one another in working to build the country, to improve their own living conditions, and to make the country strong and stable.

These victories are also the common fruits born from the labor of the revolutionary farmers, students, and intellectuals of our country, who always act as leading elements in the struggle to safeguard independence and carry out national construction. They are also the achievements of the determination and steadfastness of our armed forces who have sacrificed their own happiness and that of their families as well as their lives to defend every piece of their esteemed and cherished land and to ensure the people's national construction in peacetime.

These achievements are attributed to the numerous important contributions made by our youths who act as the vanguard units entrusted with the duties of being the sharp tools for national construction and national defense; by our women who have brilliantly shouldered both national burdens and household chores, thus deserving to be the mothers and caretakers of the new generation; by senior people who are concerned with the nation's future and who have taken their precious lessons to the new generation by mobilizing their children to participate in carrying out the national cause for their own future and for the growth and prosperity of the country; by Buddhist monks and followers of various other religious beliefs; and by compatriots living overseas who always hold aloft their strong patriotic spirit by rendering assistance in any forms to our country for the happiness and prosperity of their own nation. As for aliens carrying out their livelihood in our country, they have also done their share in fulfilling their obligations toward the new regime.

We are celebrating the 2 December founding anniversary of the LPDR this year with the fond memory of the long distance of our revolution filled with numerous sacrifices in the past and our achievements made prior to the founding of the LPDR.

We would like to express our boundless gratitude toward our fighters who have made sacrifices to the national liberation cause as well as the cause of defending and building the country. The revolutionary tradition and the 2 December spirit will always serve to forge and nurture our determination. We firmly believe in the rigorous strength of the masses and the bright future of our country. The more pride we have in our achievements, the more vigorously we will march forward to further enhance the wartime revolutionary tradition and the tradition of the 16 years of national defense and national construction and in implementing the restructuring policy so as to take our country along the path charted by the Fifth Party Congress.

In the immediate future, we are resolved to extensively carry out together the political life and to profoundly study the Constitution endorsed and promulgated by the Supreme People's Assembly. Our compatriots, combatants, services, units, and localities are determined to join hands with one another in concentrating our great efforts on overcoming the difficulties caused by the aftermath of the recent natural calamities, intensifying the maintenance of the political stability and public security and order, ensuring the state's activities, promoting production in all fields, paying attention to resolving difficulties in business and market management, improving the living conditions of the people, attentively enforcing and abiding by laws, implementing the policy of thrift, carrying out the main season rice harvest with minimal losses, preparing to carry out dry season rice farming and crop cultivation, promoting the production of essential and export goods, and fulfilling obligations toward the country in a correct, complete, and just fashion aimed at effectively fulfilling the 1991 socioeconomic plan so as to create a firm foundation for marching forward to implement the 1992 plan in a broader scope and in a more enthusiastic and fruitful manner.

For the wealth of our people and the strength of our nation, let all of our countrymen march forward together!

Philippines

Bases Withdrawal Talks Near Agreement

HK0312025591 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 3 Dec 91 p 3

[By Dionisio Tubianosa and Madelynne Dominguez]

[Text] The informal talks between Philippine and U.S. government officials on the withdrawal of U.S. forces from bases in the country have reached a point where there are only "a few critical issues" to be resolved.

This was disclosed yesterday by Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon, head of the Philippine withdrawal panel, following the series of meetings he had recently with American Ambassador Frank Wisner.

Drilon, however, refused to reveal the crucial issues still to be resolved. He also said that, in case no agreement is reached by December 31, the Philippine government will invoke the Ramos-Rusk Agreement and reissue its notice of termination giving the U.S. forces one year to leave the country. This would mean the Americans would be asked to vacate the base (Subic Naval Base) not later than December 31, 1992.

"They (Americans) realize that we have indeed a constitutional restriction and they have accepted the decision of the Philippines as a sovereign state" regarding the three-year phased withdrawal scheme, Drilon added. If an executive agreement could be in place by the end of this year, the Americans can phase their withdrawal until September 17, 1994.

Drilon, while refusing to venture on any date for the possible signing of the executive agreement, explained that the primary consideration behind the government's proposed phased withdrawal scheme was the interest of Filipino base workers, their dependents and other allied livelihoods that will be directly or indirectly affected by any abrupt American withdrawal.

It would be "irresponsible" for us in government to disregard the workers and just let the Americans leave, he said.

He explained that there would be no constitutional violation if an executive agreement were reached because the agreement would cover a phased withdrawal, not an extension of stay which is what the constitution prohibits.

Meanwhile, Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay yesterday urged Congress to include Makati among the Metro Manila towns to be given a share in the proposed sale of Fort Bonifacio to the private sector under the bases conversion bill.

Binay asked both houses of Congress to ammend a pending bill creating a Philippine Base Conversion and Development Authority which authorizes the President to sell and dispose of the various camps in Metro Manila to generate funds for the bases conversion.

The bill also provides that in the case of the sale of Fort Bonifacio, headquarters of the Philippine Army, one percent of the proceeds shall go to the municipal governments of Tagig and Pateros, which like Makati, occupy portions of the camp.

Binay deplored Makati's exclusion from the one percent share, even as he belied the general impression among lawmakers that Makati expects to generate more revenues with the effectivity of the new local government code next year.

Davao Signature Campaign Urges Bases Retention

HK0412053691 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 4 Dec 91 p 4

[By Rose dela Cruz]

[Text] Despite ongoing informal talks between representatives of the Philippine and United States governments on the withdrawal of U.S. forces from military facilities in the country, a signature campaign similar to one undertaken in Olongapo City has been launched in Davao City to push for a reversal of the Senate decision rejecting an extension on the U.S. lease of the bases.

The campaign which aims to support a resolution calling for the empowerment on the bases issue, was launched recently by a broad coalition of citizens' organizations in the city.

The resolution, patterned after an earlier signature drive in Olongapo City, came in the wake of reports from Malacanang that ongoing talks on a three-year U.S. withdrawal period have entered a "crucial stage." Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon, RP [Republic of the Philippines] panel head, Monday warned that by the end of the year, if no agreement was in place, the Ramos-Rusk agreement would be invoked, limiting the withdrawal period to exactly one year.

The Davao resolution seeks to overturn the Senate rejection of the treaty concluded by Manglapus and U.S. chief negotiator Richard Armitage because the people were "denied their basic right to directly participate in the resolution of the bases issue."

According to Abarico, their movement is intended to correct this anomaly. "If given the chance, the people would have voted for the treaty, as confirmed in earlier surveys showing high approval ratings for continued RP-U.S. ties," emphasized Abarico, chairman of the Davao City Press Foundation and publisher of the MINDANAO REPORTER, a business weekly.

They have asked the government, "particularly the Senate, to recast its position (on the treaty) in accordance with the wishes of the majority."

In another development, proposals to parcel out 172 hectares of the 690-hectares reservation of Camp John Hay in Baguio City cannot yet be implemented until the survey and assessment of these areas have been completed by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Reports that the government has already been allocating portions of the camp to agrarian reform beneficiaries were denied yesterday by the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) and the Department of Tourism (DOT).

Prospects for Manglapus Visit to Burma Cited

To Discuss 'Bilateral' Issues

HK0412044291 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 4 Dec 91 p 3

[By Johanna Son]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus is in Myanmar [Burma] for a "bilateral" visit, and not on an ASEAN-sanctioned mission to relay the regional group's concern over the human rights situation there, a foreign affairs official stressed yesterday.

But Assistant Foreign Secretary Reynaldo Arcilla told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee the Philippines was "not unconcerned about human rights" in Myanmar.

"He (Manglapus) is not going there as an ASEAN representative, but because of an invitation of Myanmar to come on a bilateral visit," he said.

Philippine officials have taken pains to stress the officially "bilateral" nature of Manglapus' visit, to assuage Myanmar's publicly-stated concern that any talk on its internal matters constituted interference.

"The purpose of the visit is to honor an invitation extended by the former Burmese ambassador to him. Whether the secretary takes up issues outside bilateral ones I cannot say," Arcilla said.

Nevertheless, the committee, headed by Sen. Leticia Shahani, endorsed a resolution supporting the awarding of the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize to jailed dissident Aung San Suu Kyi.

The same resolution calls on Manila to adopt a policy towards the Union of Myanmar which is consonant with "the Filipino people's love for democracy and regard for the preservation of human rights."

Shahani batted for swift approval of the resolution while Manglapus, known in international circles for his human rights advocacy, was in Myanmar. He left on Monday and will return Dec. 5.

Manglapus' trip took place amid speculations he was concerned about the Myanmar military government's detention of Aung San Suu Kyi.

Shahani herself pointed out that Manglapus appeared to have a "tacit mandate" from ASEAN officials, but this was disputed by Arcilla.

To Raise Human Rights Issue

HK0312071591 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 3 Dec 91 p 3

[By Arthur I. Bariuad]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Raul S. Manglapus will raise sensitive issues like grave human rights violations and political repression against Myanmar's [Burma] military regime during his three-day diplomatic mission in that isolated Southeast Asian country, it was learned yesterday.

Diplomatic sources said the two issues remain high in the agenda of Manglapus and that his trip would not mean anything if they were sidelined. They said the world, especially the U.S. and other Western powers, was eagerly awaiting the early resolution of these two issues.

Manglapus left yesterday for Myanmar amid a cloud of mystery over his role in a mission first crafted by the six-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The Manglapus mission, which included his wife Pacita, Representative Bonifacio Gillego, Ambassador Romualdo Ong, director general of the Asia-Pacific Affairs Office of the DFA [Department of Foreign Affairs], and DFA assistant secretary for public information Democrito Y. Caparas, kept a low profile up to the last minute.

But ASEAN's hand in the mission began to clear yesterday as Manglapus took a brief stopover in Bangkok before proceeding to Yangon [Rangoon] for the start of his mission. A sketchy report filed by the Philippine information officer in Bangkok said Thai Deputy Foreign Minister Vichien Wattanakun called on the secretary, and Manglapus is again expected for bilateral talks with Foreign Minister Arsa Sarasin before his return to Manila December 5.

Thailand has expressed interest in helping Myanmar march towards democracy. Thailand, which shares a border with Myanmar, and the Philippines are members of the anti-communist ASEAN. The group also includes Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei and Malaysia.

Manglapus for the past few weeks evaded questions from newsmen over the role of ASEAN in the trip, insisting that he was going to Myanmar as an official of the Philippine government. He also dismissed speculations he would raise human rights and political issues with the Myanmar authorities during the visit.

A brief statement released by the Foreign Office said Manglapus will "conduct separate meetings" with key Myanmar officials, without mentioning specific issues to be taken during the talks.

"During his official visit, Manglapus will conduct comprehensive talks with key Myanmar officials on matters of bilateral, regional and global interest to the two countries," the statement said.

However, the statement showed that the foreign secretary will be meeting with Myanmar's Chief Justice U Aung Toe, Attorney General U Tha Tun and its Election Commission, which was a virtual confirmation that he will relay the global sentiment over the continued detention of opposition leader and Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi, Myanmar's military regime has been very sensitive of criticism related to human rights violations and political repression.

Ruling Party Contenders for Standard Bearer Noted

Ramos, Mitra Nominated

HK2811094291 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 28 Nov 91

[On-the-spot report by reporter Henry Umaga Diaz of Radio Patrol No. 14 in Greenhills, Pasig, Metro Manila during the news conference by House Speaker Ramon Mitra and former Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos; includes interviews with ruling party stalwart Senators Neptali Gonzales and Butz Aquino, Congressmen Peping Cojuangco and Emigdio Tanjuatco; by Henry Umaga Diaz—live; italicized passages in English]

[Text] [Diaz] The news conference by the standard bearer contenders of the Struggle of Filipino Democrats [LDP] has just concluded and the hands of House Speaker Ramon Mitra and former Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos have just been raised by Paul Aquino of the LDP; Senator Neptali Gonzales, LDP president; and other LDP officials including its Secretary General Jose Peping Cojuangco.

Meanwhile in their closing speeches, former Secretary Ramos said that although the votes between himself and Mitra are presently equal, he has an edge over Mitra. He said right in front of Speaker Mitra that the votes for the speaker of the House are declining.

Speaker Mitra assailed outsiders who are trying to influence the results of the nominations for the standard bearer of the LDP. We are now interviewing Senator Butz Aquino, the new member of the LDP.

[Aquino] *Well, right now, she has not openly sided with anybody. As she had said, she'll support whoever comes out in the convention, which is the proper thing. Well, I suppose she likes both, afterall, both have supported her throughout all these years.*

[Diaz] According to Senator Butz Aquino, President Aquino has not yet endorsed anybody as presidential standard bearer of the LDP in 1992. As a presidential relative, Senator Aquino said that to his knowledge, President Aquino has not yet officially endorsed anyone. We will get inside here in the ongoing interview with House Speaker Ramon Mitra.

[Mitra, in progress] *...by filing criminal charges. We're preparing the charges now, we'll file it in court, if it makes it today. If it does not, we'll file it tomorrow.*

[Unidentified reporter] *Against whom, sir?*

[Mitra] *Against Secretary Franklin Drilon, Under Secretary Cesar Carino, Under Secretary Dela Cerna, and Under Secretary Jesus Vergala.*

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Mitra] *With the [word indistinct]. What can I say? I hope they receive it today. If they do not, they'll receive it tomorrow and we'll file it tomorrow.*

[Diaz] That was about the statement of Speaker Mitra on the planned suit against Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon and his assistant, Dela Cerna, and other Malacanang officials regarding the alleged unjust release of the budget for local government units. And this has bearing on his earlier announcement a while ago that he will file charges. Meanwhile, here is Congressman Emigdio Tanjuatco. Sir, can you comment on the reports that President Cory [Aquino] and the presidential relatives are for Ramos?

[Tanjuatco] There is news on that, and for me that is just news.

[Diaz] Are you supporting anyone in particular in this nomination?

[Tanjuatco] My supported nominee will be known by way of votes from Rizal and this will be out on Saturday [30 November].

[Anchorman] Henry, why doesn't he want to reveal?

[Diaz] He said he will announce during the convention itself on Saturday.

[Anchorman] That means if Mitra wins, he'll say he's for Mitra. If Ramos wins, he'll say he's for Ramos.

[Diaz, chuckling] Maybe that's it. Meanwhile, we would also like to interview Congressman Peping Cojuangco.

[Cojuangco, in progress] *...he's not going to the party. Because even through assuming the leadership, we would like to accept a certain individual, the local leaders must also accept the entry of an individual. That, that's very crucial. That's why it's very difficult to make any categorical statement on anyone's part, particularly if the majority is acceptable to the party.*

[Reporter] *Does that mean that the two, sir, between the two contenders on November 30, cannot run as president?*

[Cojuangco] *I think it is very clear, the statements of both, that their intentions here are to keep this party together, united and strong for the coming elections.*

[Diaz] Okay, according to Congressman Peping Cojuangco, secretary general of the LDP, anyone who will lose in nomination, especially on Saturday, will no longer challenge the standard bearer of the LDP. Those were the reports in relation to this press conference in Greenhills.

Mitra Declared Victor

HK0212144491 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0030 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Interview with House Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr. by host Joe Taruc from "Liberty in Action" program at DZRH studio, Manila—live; italicized passages in English]

[Excerpts] [Taruc] Good morning, friends. Our guest today is someone who people from various parts of our country have been waiting to hear from. He is none other than the victor in last Saturday's Struggle of Filipino Democrats' [LDP] convention—House Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr. Mr. Speaker, good morning and congratulations.

[Mitra] Good morning, Joe, and thank you. Although it was not your intention to help me, you nevertheless did by getting my message across to the delegates at the convention. I guess this is the reason why a number of the delegates decided to transfer to my side.

[Taruc] Okay, Mr. Speaker, I know that you are aware that there are a number of issues and questions that are puzzling our listeners on what really transpired within the last few days. First of all, on the topic of President Corazon Aquino's endorsement, there are rumors going around that the president may not endorse your candidacy despite your victory in the LDP convention. Do you have any comment on this?

[Mitra] What the president said was clear: She is going to announce her endorsement on 25 January. It is also clear to my colleagues in the party that because of the support the party has given her, the president will support the LDP's nominee. So, I think I still have a very good chance of getting her endorsement on 25 January.

[Taruc] As you and our listeners know, even before the actual convention, word got out that you were not the candidate which Malacanang intended to support....

[Mitra, interrupting] We have not heard any public statement from the president that she is siding with anyone. But there has been news like this. But all of this has been hearsay. She has made no public announcement indicating that she is on anyone's side during the past convention.

[Taruc] Okay, after winning the LDP convention, what are your priorities now?

[Mitra] The reunification of the party. The actions of Secretary Ramos were very commendable. His statement was very beautiful. So that night, I had a talk with the secretary and I repeated to him what our old Spanish Bishop Gregorio Espiga I recollect once told me: Grande hombre, grande hombre—which means: A big man, a big man. And I think we could say this of Secretary Ramos because of the kind of concession statement that he made.

[Taruc] Are you now considering who will be your vice president?

[Mitra] We have been discussing this matter for a long time. But this will be finalized only after we have consulted the other party members and those people who are knowledgeable on the characteristics needed for such a candidate.

What is important right now is that we have united our party. And Secretary Ramos' comment when we met with each other was quite commendable. He said that there are other things which we need to concern ourselves with in order to strengthen the party. This statement merely implies that he is interested in strengthening and unifying the party. Together with Peping Cojuangco, we are now looking into the problems plaguing the LDP and discussing the possible solutions to these problems with the goal of strengthening the LDP.

[Taruc] Regarding the rumors circulating before the convention that if you won and Secretary Ramos lost, some members of the LDP would transfer to other political parties, are you doing something about it so that the none of the present party members will leave the LDP?

[Mitra] The way I see it, Joe, there will be members of other parties who will be joining us. Some of my friends who are in the other political parties, since I won the convention, have started to call in, and I think that within the next few days I will be announcing the names of those former LDP party members who will be rejoining us. [passage omitted]

[Taruc] Regarding those government officials who—you cannot deny—worked against you during the time of the convention, are you going to continue your case against them, especially that against Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon?

[Mitra] It is now in the hands of my lawyer and we have not discussed it yet.

[Taruc] Did you order an investigation into the recent events that occurred during the LDP convention?

[Mitra] This is what Secretary Ramos wanted. And as I said earlier, he wanted to make the party stronger, remove all resentments within the party, and correct all wrongdoings committed by other party members. It is good that this happened, for we were able to see defects of the organization which we can fix.

[Taruc] What is your overall assessment regarding the outcome of the result of the election in the LDP?

[Mitra] Nothing could be better than what has occurred.

[Taruc] Was your being ahead of Secretary Ramos expected or more than expected?

[Mitra] It was expected, and afterward the expectation was gone, and then it returned, and later the outcome of the result was good.

[Taruc] You know, there are a lot of our listeners who would like to ask you about your low moral esteem [as heard] these last two days.

[Mitra] No, Joe. It is wrong, the morale is not low, the adrenalin is very high. You know, if we are being challenged, our adrenalin normally goes up if we are being put into a fighting stance, and the tone of my voice is a bit high. My voice tone is usually low, but if the fight is a bit tight and I am put into a corner, my voice seems to rise.

[Taruc] One of the things that we noticed here, Mr. Speaker—aside from your companions in the lower house, the people who have helped you a lot are your local government officials, governors, and mayors.

[Mitra] I have already said a long time ago, Joe, that I have friends that are not only from the lower house but also in the local governments, like the governors and mayors. But the thing is that they give more attention to my connection with some congressmen because their support is very important and they are my everyday companions. They are authoritative regarding things about me. They know my faults and weaknesses and my strength as a leader. They are always with me and they can see how I react to problems, how I handle crises. That is why they are important to me. If they were not with me then maybe I myself would doubt whether I am a worthy candidate. That is why their support is very important. If I am the next president then things will be different.

[Taruc] Mr. Speaker, a lot of our listeners are wondering because they saw that the Aquino family—the family of former Senator Aquino—has supported you all the way; and the family of President Corazon Aquino has been your opponent at the convention. Many have been asking, was there any hostility between Speaker Mitra and President Corazon Aquino or the family of President Corazon Aquino and Speaker Mitra?

[Mitra] The important thing here, Joe, is when we face the election in this campaign, we are all united. And I am hoping that these two groups will be just one and that they will support me.

[Taruc] So, you believe that the supporters of the other side that have supported your opponent in the convention will be as one group in this coming election?

[Mitra] Why not? Actually our objective is to have our party win the election and to continue the good programs of the president. I was also included in making this foundation. Also, the president knows that I will continue the good programs and projects of the president. I am hoping that in my campaign these two families will be united, and they are not really divided. Even though the other side has supported the other candidate it does not mean they will separate. It is just a small thing, *it is just one of the many facets of relationships.* I am hoping by the start of my campaign they will be united.

[Taruc] Will you agree to making Secretary Ramos your candidate for vice president in the 1992 election? Is this offer still open to Secretary Ramos, or is there any possibility that he will be one of your opponents in the 1992 election?

[Mitra] Why not? Our relationship is still good in spite of our fighting against each other at the convention. Even if our fight became heated, still our personal relationship has not gone sour. And this kind of attitude which he has shown after the election made me think more that our relationship will be greater, and the possibility that he will be my running mate is very great. We just need to fix things and discuss it with the party council. In the near future, even before the party convenes, we can announce who will be my running mate.

[Taruc] Speaker Mitra, this morning you have heard that this Kabisig [Brotherhood] movement will be a political party, or that this party is ready to launch its candidates in the 1992 elections. What is your reaction to this?

[Mitra] Why not talk about the possibility of having the Kabisig join us? A majority of them are members of our party. Let us bring them into a grand coalition. Not only from the Kabisig, but from other groups who are talking with me which will join us. We have a common denominator—our objective is to serve the nation. That is why we should be together and make it even a political party or a grand coalition. I am (discounting) my friends in the Nationalista Party [Nationalist Party] who are being maltreated or being fenced out in order to join me. Those who are temporarily with Justice Fernan can return to us and *we have never considered them to have left the party.* Nene Pimentel and myself are on talking terms and we have so many more things that we both agree on than things on which we do not agree. We should be together again because we were together in our fight against Marcos. I visited him in jail during those times, and when I was also in jail, he too had a good relationship with my friends who were out of jail. *This is within the realm of possibility* regarding our politics here in the Philippines.

[Taruc] What is your assessment of the effect of the endorsement of the president? What is your opinion on the endorsement of the president for a candidate in the 1992 election?

[Mitra] The popularity of a candidate will be greater if the candidate is perceived to be an administration candidate. During the past administration, this turned out to be a negative factor, because a lot of bad things had happened in the previous government. If those who are in the government, the employees, or members of government are to be convinced that they are part of our team, that their sentiments in the government will be (corrected), that they are a part in making any changes in policies, then in turn they will be a great support to reckon with. I have estimated that they are about 20 percent. If you can convince them that they are part of your team, and no pressure will be used in convincing them, and if I get their support as an administration candidate then it will be a great advantage to me as a candidate.

Ramos Forms New Political Group

HK0412100191 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Combined reports by anchorman Joe Taruc and field reporter Rey Sibayan of DZRH Unit 11 with Gabby Cruz in Congress]

[Text] Former Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos launched a new political movement following his defeat in the Struggle of Filipino Democrats [LDP] convention held 30 November.

The political movement was given the name HOPE: Honest, Orderly, and Peaceful Elections in 1992. Ramos said that the country's problems cannot be solved if the coming elections are not clean, free, and honest. Ramos expressed fear that if trouble and violence break out in the coming election, there could be a repeat of the EDSA [Epifanio Delos Santos Avenue] people power of 1986.

Ramos also added that the launching of HOPE is a step to rekindle the spirit of EDSA. He also has a slogan that says: EDSA '92, which stands for Eddie Ramos in 1992 elections. Because of this plan of Ramos, it is suspected that he will break away from the LDP to pursue his candidacy in the 1992 presidential elections. Up to the present, Ramos still harbors hurt feelings for having been allegedly cheated during the recently held LDP convention.

In relation to this, there is an imminent split in the LDP if there are no clarifications made regarding the alleged irregularities during the LDP convention. This warning came from former Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos when he talked with President Corazon Aquino.

According to Ramos, after he conceded at 1815 on 30 November, he already received many complaints from LDP voting delegates who supported him.

Meanwhile, Raul Roco, house assistant majority floor leader, appealed to Ramos to stop his protest regarding the preference survey held last Saturday [30 November].

According to Ramos... [correcting himself] ...to Roco, Ramos should respect the democratic process rather than besmirch the party system. Roco also said that the Ramos group is still gathering documents that are aimed at proving the irregularities last Saturday. Despite this, Roco described the event last Saturday as a first experiment only, and that the voting was orderly, and even peaceful.

Democrats Reveal 1992 Senate Hopefuls

HK0412062891 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Four members of President Aquino's cabinet, two actors, and two prominent bankers may be included in the Struggle of Filipino Democrats' [LDP] senatorial ticket in the forthcoming elections.

Senior House Assistant Majority Floor leader Ronaldo Zamora said the LDP is now holding regional and provincial consultations to form a strong senatorial ticket in the elections. It was learned from Zamora that should the LDP win a majority of Senate seats, it would assign Senator Neptali Gonzales, who is the party's president, as senate president.

Among those considered for inclusion on the LDP Senate ticket are Jose de Jesus, secretary of the Department of Public Works and Highways; Labor Secretary Ruben Torres; Department of Interior Local Governments Secretary Luis Santos; Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III; movie actors Ramon Revilla and Quezon City Vice Mayor Tito Sotto; and bankers Ramon Orosa and Feliciano Belmonte Jr., Philippine Airlines president and general manager of the Government Service Insurance System respectively.

Military To Remain Neutral in Upcoming Elections

HK2911075591 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 29 Nov 91 p 6

[By Manny Mogato]

[Text] Senior defense and military officials last night assured the public that the 120,000-strong military would remain neutral in next year's elections.

At the same time, they also asked the private sector to help them ensure a clean, peaceful, honest and orderly elections.

Describing the elections in May as "the first of its kind" in the country in years, Defense Secretary Renato de Villa said they have a sworn duty to ensure that the "rights of the people to choose their leader is not subverted and disturbed."

"This is the legacy of the Aquino administration and we want to help her attain that dream," he told the Bishops-Businessmen Conference.

"The real strength of the armed forces lies in the success of this political exercise." De Villa said the success of the elections would show the world that "democracy is alive and working in this country."

The military will be deputized by the Comelec [Commission on Elections] to maintain law and order during the election.

But the previous exercises, the military and the police were partisan in favor of some politicians.

This was particularly true during the Marcos regime when soldiers snatched ballots, intimidate and coerce voters to vote for a particular candidate.

The credibility of the armed forces has been questioned during political exercises until 1986 when some groups in the military exposed massive fraud and cheating and decided to break away from the government.

Under the Aquino administration, the military tried to maintain its neutrality during elections but there have been reports that some soldiers were partisan on certain candidates.

De Villa said the military will not allow itself to be used by certain elements, particularly by politicians in the coming elections.

He has, in fact, issued memoranda, asking soldiers and civilians working under his department to maintain their neutrality.

He said the military should not interfere in any political contest and should not decide the outcome of any elections.

To Preempt CPP-NPA Interference

HK0312093891 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 3 Dec 91

[By Rodney Jaleco]

[Text] The military will be taking preemptive actions against communist rebels in order to prevent them from disrupting the coming national elections. Defense Secretary Renato De Villa said now that the military is certain that the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army [CPP-NPA] will interfere in the coming polls, they are taking necessary precautions to prevent it.

According to several Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] officials, the military has already started redeploying forces in different areas of the country which were identified by the Commission on Elections [Comelec] as probable election troublespots in the coming year. They began redeployment even before Comelec gave instructions to do so. The Comelec is expected to deputize the AFP and the Philippine National Police to ensure orderly and peaceful elections next year.

Furthermore, several AFP officials also reported that the CPP-NPA has plans of entering or otherwise supporting some candidates, especially at the local level, leading the military to believe that the communist rebels will actively interfere in the elections. The military has also received reports that some armed groups, including the CPP-NPA, the Moro National Liberation Front, and other organized criminal elements, have offered their services to some politicians to ensure the politician's victory.

In line with these reports, De Villa stressed that the government will not allow these elements to succeed in any of the barangays or precincts, especially in the far-flung areas.

De Villa's Nomination as Defense Head Confirmed

HK0412100291 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] The Commission on Appointments [CA] has confirmed Renato de Villa's nomination as secretary of the Department of National Defense this morning. Senator Aquilino Pimentel said that Ramos' defeat has greatly helped in the confirmation of De Villa's nomination. Pimentel said some CA members have opposed the approval of De Villa's nomination for fear that Ramos might use him in his candidacy. After Ramos' defeat in the Struggle of the Filipino Democrats straw vote last Saturday, the CA has decided to confirm De Villa.

Meanwhile, the CA has failed to confirme the nomination of Pete Nicomedes Prado, Department of Transportation and Communication [DOTC] secretary; Rafael Alunan, DOTC secretary [title as heard]; Silvestre Bello III, Department of Justice secretary; and Peter Garrucho; Department of Trade and Industry secretary.

Aquino Still Open to Talks With Military Rebels

HK0312023291 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 3 Dec 91 pp 1, 8

[Text] President Aquino yesterday said reconciliation with military rebels was still possible despite the collapse of talks with dismissed Lt. Col. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan and other putsch leaders.

Ms. Aquino's statement came in the wake of reports that acting Justice Secretary Silvestre Bello III had talked with two of Honasan's jailed comrades to convey the government's intention to resume talks with military rebels.

"I believe that our military has the will and the resources to put an end to both rightist and the leftist rebellions. The possibility of peaceful solutions to this should, of course, be never abandoned," Ms. Aquino said in a statement.

Bello reportedly visited ex-Brig. Gen. Jose Commendador and ex-Lt. Col. Billy Bibit on Nov. 25 at their detention cell in Camp Aguinaldo and asked them to set a meeting with Honasan.

Two weeks ago, however, Ms. Aquino gave military rebel leaders until Nov. 23 to surrender amid talks between Honasan and Gen. Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces chief of staff.

Honasan and other putsch leaders defied the ultimatum and Ms. Aquino ordered the military to resume the hunt for him and his comrades.

Honasan, who carries a P [Philippine peso]5-million reward for his capture, blamed the collapse of the talks on Ms. Aquino's "lack of political will, sincerity and vision."

Honasan insisted that Malacanang consider eight talking points, including electoral reforms, eradication of graft and corruption, and the immediate withdrawal of U.S. forces in the country.

Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon and Defense Secretary Renato S. de Villa rejected the proposed agenda for formal peace talks between the rebels and the government.

The targets of the military hunt are Honasan, ex-Commodore Domingo Calajate and 10 other officers of the Rebolusyo-naryong Alyansang Makabayan, Kawal ng Sambayanang Pilipino [Revolutionary Nationalist Alliance, Soldiers of the Filipino People], and the Young Officers Union. The three groups were behind at least six coup attempts against Ms. Aquino.

Other fugitive rebel leaders include ex-Brig. Gen. Jose MaZumel, ex-Navy Capt. Felix Turingan and Lt. Gregor Mendel Panelo.

De Villa said Honasan has eluded arrest partly due to the support given by a number of high military officers.

Abadia Dismisses Reports on Renewed Peace Talks

HK0212113391 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] General Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces of the Philippines chief of staff, dismissed reports that the government has plans to renew peace talks with rightists. He said this in line with reports that acting Justice Secretary Silvestre Bello is conducting talks with detained rebel soldiers in preparation for new peace talks. According to Abadia, there is no truth to the reports.

Arraignment Procedures Against Rebels Begin

HK0412025991 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 4 Dec 91 p 3

[By Manny Mogato]

[Text] Rightist military rebel leader Eduardo "Red" Kapunan, who had voluntarily returned to military control a month ago, will be arraigned today, along with 50 other renegade officers, for their involvement in the failed December 1989 coup.

Kapunan and his co-accused officers are facing mutiny charges before military general court martial number 10, presided over by Armed Forces Commodore Jorge Lagera.

If found guilty, they could be sentenced to 12 to 24 years hard labor, with their pay and allowances forfeited and their military commission cancelled.

The arraignment of Kapunan and other rebel officers indicated that the military has resumed, not only the manhunt for the eleven remaining fugitive officers, but also the prosecution of officers implicated in the December 1989 coup.

Armed Forces Chief Lisandro Abadia earlier ordered a temporary suspension of all military trials of coup plotters and participants during the six-month government peace initiatives to bring rebel leader Gregorio Honasan back to military control.

Abadia had also stopped all manhunt and intelligence operations against the RAM-KSP-YOU [Reformed the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officers Union], released 100 junior rebel officers and improved prison conditions of detained senior rebel officers.

Abadia's gesture formed part of his efforts to convince the RAM- KSP-YOU that the military was sincere in pursuing peace talks with them.

The peace initiatives bogged down after Honasan spurned the government-set Nov. 23 deadline to surface and place himself under military control.

Now that President Aquino has decided to put pressure on Honasan and his cohorts, Abadia was forced to go after the remaining rebel officers and resume trials of captured and surrendered rebel soldiers.

Kapunan, who was "reinstated" in the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] roster of troops after his voluntary return to military control last Nov. 1, will be arraigned along with the third batch of renegade officers who were ordered to face court martial proceedings.

Kapunan's co-accused include Navy Capt. Proceso Maligalig, Army Majors Abraham Purugganan and Wilhelm Doromal, and Army Lieutenants Emil Ong, Pompeyo Dario, Vicente Tomas and Robert Pierre Pel.

Kapunan has been placed under custody of Army Brig. Gen. Alfredo Filler, the armed forces intelligence chief, while the lieutenants have been released to their commanding general, Army Maj. Gen. Arturo Enrile.

Purugganan, Doromal and Maligalig remain detained in Camp Crame and Fort Bonifacio.

Fugitive right-wing leader Domingo Calajate, a former naval flag officer, who also included in the list, but his arraignment was withheld pending his arrest.

Meanwhile, Malacanang denied it had knowledge of peace initiatives made by Acting Justice Secretary Silvestre Bello III towards right-wing military rebels.

Rebels Say Armory Theft Could Have Sparked Coup

HK2911073091 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 29 Nov 91 pp 1, 9

[Text] Had there been a shootout during the Sunday midnight raid on the Camp Crame armory, it could have started the eighth coup attempt against the Aquino administration.

This was revealed by the two rebel officers arrested last Tuesday in San Juan by combined military and police intelligence agents in connection with the armory raid. The third man arrested was a civilian sympathizer.

"May blocking forces kaming nakahanda sa may Santolan road.... Siguradong magkaka-bakbakan ng husto kapag nagkaputukan kami sa loob ng Crame. Malakas ang suporta naming nasa labas lang ng kampo [We had blocking forces prepared at Santolan Road.... There would have been fighting for sure if there was an exchange of fire within Crame. We had strong support outside the camp]," the two captured rebel soldiers told police investigators during the interrorgation.

The two, ex-Army Sgt. Dionisio Opiana and ex-Marine Sgt. Ricareado Espedilon, revealed to the Criminal Investigation Service Command [CISC] investigators the extent of the ultra-rightist group's plan that night of the raid.

Opiana and Espedilon both claimed the raiders—18 rebel soldiers all armed with combat knives and powerful handguns—were mostly commando-trained, explosives experts and all capable of using the stolen light anti-tank weapons (LAWs).

The group entered Camp Crame in four vehicles shortly before midnight and executed the "operation" in less than 20 minutes.

The raiders were led by ex-Army Capt. Reynaldo Ordonez, who had escaped from military detention while undergoing trial for his involvement in the past coup attempts. Ordonez is a bomb expert who was tagged as the leader of the foiled bombing of Basa air base in Floridablanca, Pampanga, in November last year.

About 60 light anti-tank weapons, a 90 mm recoilless rifle, a 60 mm light machine gun, and several assault rifles, were stolen from the Philippine National Police (PNP) during the raid.

The plan was for the raiders to use the stolen LAWs against any force that would attempt to stop them.

The captured raiders, said that if attacked and pursued by any government forces from either Camp Crame and Camp Aguinaldo, the government forces would be intercepted by at least two truckloads of commando-trained rebel soldiers who were "just waiting for go signals" to move in.

The support groups were allegedly parked on two main streets perpendicular to Camps Crame and Aguinaldo.

The PNP and the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] authorities announced two days later that three of the raiders have been arrested and 19 LAWs recovered from the San Juan safe-house of the rebel soldiers. Arrested were Opinan, Espedillon and a certain Dindo Adajar, a civilian.

The three have been charged by the CISC investigators with illegal possession of firearms and robbery before the Quezon City prosecutors office. No bail was recommended for their temporary liberty.

However, both agencies refused to give the exact number of missing weapons.

They said the government agents also seized from the rebel safehouse about 260 dynamite sticks, five homemade bombs with detonators, and two big bolt cutters.

Meanwhile, Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Lisandro Abadia said no shoot-to-kill order will be issued to soldiers hunting renegade Col. Gregorio Honasan.

What soldiers should do, he said, is make sure that they bag Honasan for the P [Philippine pesos] 5-million bounty on his head.

Abadia earlier expressed confidence that Honasan will be captured within six months or before the May 1992 elections.

The "whole might of the AFP" will be used to capture the renegade colonel, Abadia said.

The AFP chief of staff admitted he had a last-minute meeting with Honasan, before the deadline for the surrender of rebel soldiers expired on Saturday.

During the meeting with Honasan, Abadia said the renegade colonel remained defiant.

Abadia said he then told Honasan the renegade colonel was giving the AFP leadership no choice but to arrest him.

Communist Rebels Threaten Education Secretary

HK0212024891 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Text] Communist rebels threatened to assassinate Education Secretary Isidro Carino if any of the 29 teachers on hunger strike in front of the National Press Club dies. The threat came from the Nationalist Youth, the youth wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, due to Carino's continued refusal to reinstate expelled teachers. They said they will ask the leaders of the Communist Party of the Philippines to investigate Carino if one of the teachers on hunger strike dies. The communist rebels said that Carino will surely pay for the life and blood of the people if something bad happens to the teachers, who are now on their 15th day of protest in front of the National Press Club building.

Extra Security Considered

HK0212121991 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 2 Dec 91

[By Vicky Robles, Radio Patrol No 15]

[Text] Philippine National Police [PNP] Director General Cesar Nazareno said that he will study whether the threat by the New People's Army [NPA] against the life of Education Secretary Isidro Carino is serious. The NPA have threatened to assassinate Carino for refusing to reinstate more than 350 dismissed teachers. PNP Director General Cesar Nazareno said that Education Secretary Carino has sufficient security. Nevertheless, they might provide more security personnel if requested by Carino. Nazareno also mentioned that the NPA usually make this kind of threat as a posture in order to gain the support of the people.

EC Urges Increase in Reconstruction Aid

HK0212035391 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 2 Dec 91 p 8

[By Andres B. Saracho]

[Text] The European Parliament [EP] has asked the member-nations of the European Community for more structural aid to the Philippines, including an increase in the $125-million grant it pledged early last year, as it expressed strong support for the government's reconstruction and recovery efforts for areas severely damaged by recent natural calamities.

At the same time, the EP called on the European countries to provide counterpart financing for a proposed special fund in Manila to combat illegal logging in the aftermath of the Ormoc tragedy early last month.

These were contained in a resolution passed by both houses of parliament, considered that "conscience of Europe," on Nov. 21 following an unprecedented statement that "the inadequate aid from wealthy Western states is one of the reasons for failure to take timely preventive measures such as reforestation and the improvement of course of rivers" in the Third World countries.

The joint resolution, sponsored by Dutch Socialist member of parliament Ben Visser, was telefaxed to Finance Secretary Jesus P. Estanislao by Philippine ambassador to Belgium Roberto R. Romulo.

Visser was visiting Manila on Nov. 3-8 when tropical storm Uring—codenamed Thelma in other countries—struck Samar and Leyte on Nov. 5, leaving more than 6,000 persons dead and hundreds of thousands of others homeless. The flashfloods that caused the tragedy were traced to massive illegal logging activities in the Visayas.

The EC gave the Philippines an emergency aid of ECU [European currency unit] 500,000 (approximately $625,000) for the Uring victims.

The resolution called on the EC member-states to step up their efforts to provide the Philippines structural aid "having noted the considerable sums needed for the recovery and reconstruction" of regions affected by recent calamities, including the Mt. Pinatubo eruptions in June.

In particular, the resolution called for a considerable increase in the ECU 100 million (approximately $125 million) in aid pledged by the EC in the second Philippine Assistance Program pledging session in Hong Kong last year.

These official development assistance pledges, committed for development projects in the Philippines until 1994, were all in the form of grants.

"(The EP) expresses its solidarity with the people of the Philippines who have suffered from four major natural disasters in the last year and a half and expresses its sympathy with the surviving relatives of the many thousands of victims and hundreds of thousands made homeless," the resolution said.

Likewise, it said funds should be made available to support a campaign against illegal logging as well as to undertake immediate reforestation measures in the Philippines.

"The effects of these natural calamities are exacerbated by human activity, such as large-scale illegal tree-felling on mountain slopes, resulting in mudflows which inundate everything in their path," the resolution emphasized.

"There is a danger that such disasters will become wide-spread as a result of the serious soil erosion, which increasingly limits the capacity of forests as water catchment and storage areas."

Romulo, meantime, said the EC support for the Philippines is likely to be increased following the joint resolution. "Presumably, the member-states and their resident ambassadors in Manila will take due notice, considering that the forthcoming EC summit in Maasricht is likely to broaden EP powers on items related to budget," Romulo said.

Teachers, Militant Groups To Hold Protest 5 Dec

HK0412055491 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0500 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] A big multisectoral protest action aimed at pressuring the government to reinstate the dismissed teachers will be held tomorrow in front of Malacanang and the Department of Education, Culture, and Sports. Here is Tony Valencia with the details.

[Begin Valencia recording] According to a statement by the Alliance of Concerned Teachers [ACT], the rally tomorrow will be supported by transport organizations and other militant groups in an effort to pressure the government into giving in to their demands for the reinstatement of the dismissed teachers. The rally will be held in time for the arrival of the International Labor Organization representatives in an attempt to get world sympathy.

Members of the League of Filipino Students, the 1 May Movement, and other cause-oriented organizations are also expected to join the protest action in front of Malacanang Palace.

Meanwhile, Eric Torres of the ACT said that they have turned down President Corazon Aquino's appeal to end their hunger strike. He said that they will continue with their hunger strike for lack of a concrete compromise from the government.

Thailand

Asa Pleased With Results of Cambodia Meeting

BK0412070291 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] At Government House this morning, Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin spoke about the results of the yesterday's meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia in the seaside resort town of Phatthaya. He said it was a pleasure to learn that the meeting produced a clear-cut result, and that all of the four Cambodian factions successfully reached a compromise.

The foreign minister said that Thailand wanted the meeting in Phatthaya to take place with safety for all the members of the SNC. All the Cambodian factions agreed on this particular point and also responded positively to the two proposals made by Thailand.

The first is that Thailand wishes to see an agreement reached quickly in the SNC meeting. Thailand wants reconciliation to be reached among members of all the Cambodian factions and wants them to strictly follow the UN peace process for Cambodia.

Second, and most important, the foreign minister went on, Thailand wants safety for all the Cambodian factions and their next meeting should be held in Phnom Penh.

Asa said both of the Thai proposals have been greatly and satisfactorily responded to.

Following the outcome of the Phatthaya meeting, the foreign minister said that he had instructed the director of the Political Department of the Foreign Ministry to convey messages of thanks to Hun Sen, Khieu Samphan, and Prince Norodom Sihanouk for their positive responses to the Thai prime minister's requests.

Asa said he felt that the prospects for peace in Cambodia will become clearer. Thailand expects that nothing will obstruct the Cambodian peace process any more.

The next SNC meeting is expected to be held in Phnom Penh, which will please everyone. However, it is still not known when the meeting actually will take place. All of the four Cambodian factions will have to decide this matter by themselves, Asa concluded.

Sale of Rice to Iraq Blocked by UK Moves

BK0412004991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 4 Dec 91 p 17

[Text] A group of nine major rice exporters has again failed to convince the British Government to release US$125-million in Iraqi assets to buy 170,000 tons of Thai rice this year.

An informed source in the rice trade said yesterday that the group's attempt has been scrapped because of conditions set by London.

The source said London had, in response to Iraqi overtures, agreed to release the assets to buy food but Thai rice was not considered a priority.

Although the United Nations has moved to allow each government holding Iraqi assets to free up funds to enable Baghdad to buy food and essential imports, the governments concerned can make the final decision about where the money can be spent.

"Now hopes are grim for Thai rice exporters to keep their deal with Baghdad," the source said.

In July the Iraqi Government agreed to buy 645,000 tons of Thai rice worth more than 5,000 million baht from the nine major exporters.

The first 75,000 ton shipment has already gone to Baghdad, while the sale of the additional 170,000 tons this year and a further 400,000 tons next year await an Iraqi government letter of credit.

Cabinet Approves Thai-Malaysian Joint Authority

BK0412050891 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] The Cabinet has approved a ministerial regulation on the Thai-Malaysian Joint Authority Act B.E. [Buddhist Era] 2533 [C.E. 1990] as proposed by the Ministry of Industry. The joint authority is an administration body to regulate the exploitation of gas and oil reserves on overlapping territory called the joint development area between the two countries.

The ministerial regulation sets conditions and requirements for the appointments of co-chairpersons and members of joint authority including their payments.

The Cabinet also approved the appointment of Minister to the Prime Minister's Office M.R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi as a co-chairperson for the Thai side with other six high-ranking officials as members of the joint authority.

The Ministry of Industry was instructed by the Cabinet to draw U.S. $750,000 or 19.5 million baht from the 1992 annual budget to spend on the operations of the Thai-Malaysian joint authority.

Chatchai Suggests 'Royal Draft' Constitution

BK0412002591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Dec 91 p 1

[Text] Chatchai Chunhawan yesterday called on the National Peace Keeping Council [NPKC] to invite His Majesty the King to bring down an alternative draft as a way of ending the conflict over the new constitution.

The former prime minister, stressing that he was speaking as an "ordinary citizen", said a royal constitution draft would be the best solution to ending the conflict over the present draft.

His Majesty the King has several privy councillors who are legal experts and who could help in the drafting of a new charter.

The present constitution draft has been subject to constant criticism from large sectors of the community who believe it should not be presented for approval by His Majesty because of its controversial nature.

There is the real possibility the opposition to the draft may increase substantially should the National Legislative Assembly [NLA] approve it at its third reading this Saturday.

"How can we allow this constitution draft to be passed if the people do not like it?" asked Gen Chatchai.

"I think the best thing is for the NPKC chairman (former Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong) to personally seek an alternative royal draft of the constitution.

"A royal draft from His Majesty the King would help restore unity among the Thai people," he said.

Gen Chatchai confirmed he had been granted an audience with His Majesty the King on the occasion of His Majesty's 64th birthday tomorrow.

But he emphasised that the constitution issue had not been raised.

He said the idea for the NPKC to seek a royal constitution draft came to him after the Second Army Region asked him not to visit his former electorate in Nakhon Ratchasima on Decmeber 8.

Gen Chatchai said he did not think the suggestion would place an inappropriate burden on His Majesty.

He said the present conflict was very serious and His Majesty would likely grant royal mercy to help if asked by the NPKC.

A royal draft could be deliberated by the NLA in place of the present controversial charter, which could be rejected through a negative vote from the NLA or by a boycott of NLA members at its third reading so there was no quorum.

Gen Chatchai said he had mentioned the idea to NPKC leaders but had not received a response.

The ex-premier yesterday confirmed he had cancelled his planned visit to Nakhon Ratchasima following the request from the Second Army due to concerns the gathering may be misinterpreted as a protest against the constitution draft.

Gen Chatchai said he had been invited by the Nakhon Ratchasima provincial chamber of commerce to discuss the province's economic potential on Decmeber 8.

About 70,000 people were expected to turn up to welcome him to the meeting, said Gen Chatchai.

Anti-constitution protesters planned to hold rallies to oppose the draft on December 7.

The former prime minister said his planned visit to Nakhon Ratchasima had carried no political motive, and he could not understand why the NPKC was so concerned with any plans by the people to gather in support of democracy.

Editorial Examines Call for Royal Constitution

BK0412003991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 4 Dec 91 p A10

[Editorial: "If Petitioning the King Is the Last Resort, Do It"]

[Text] Deposed premier Gen Chatchai Chunhawan yesterday urged Thai people to ask for a democratic constitution directly from His Majesty the King, instead of accepting as a fait accompli the undemocratic draft constitution which is set to pass a final vote in the National Assembly this Saturday.

Chatchai put forth this bold idea in a press conference at his residence, which was called in the wake of the sudden cancellation of a grand party in Nakhon Ratchasima, Chatchai's political stronghold. Business leaders in the northeastern province planned the party for this Saturday to show their support for Chatchai and cheer him up with a new motorcycle. Chatchai lost his motorcycle along with over baht 200 million worth of property in the ruling against him by the anti-graft Sit committee. But the party—which according to Chatchai's own estimation could have attracted up to 70,000 of his supporters—was cancelled on Monday following alleged intervention by Interior Minister Gen Itsaraphong Nunphakdi, secretary-general of the National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC].

Instead of telling Gen Itsaraphong and the NPKC a thing or two, Chatchai concentrated instead on his idea to seek help from His Majesty to stop the undemocratic draft constitution from going into effect. Chatchai was well prepared to elaborate on it; he noted that the Privy Council comprises several law professors who should be able to advise His Majesty on which past Constitution is more suitable for the country than the draft constitution, which the NPKC wants to see the National Assembly pass into the country's highest law.

Such intervention by the Privy Council, as proposed by Chatchai, is unprecedented. Whether or not it is constitutional is also doubtful. The deliberate way in which Chatchai announced this idea made us wonder who is backing Chatchai, and why Chatchai put forth this idea.

Coincidentally, Chatchai had an unofficial audience with His Majesty on Monday. But Chatchai emphasized in the press conference that no political issues were discussed during the audience.

The "Chatchai initiative" will throw the military leaders on the NPKC further off balance and put them on the defensive. A veteran politician of Chatchai's stature and connections cannot be ignored, especially when he is talking about seeking help from His Majesty.

What if the National Assembly passes the draft constitution but the Privy Council advises His Majesty against signing it? Such a crisis did take place during the reign of King Rama VII in 1934.

National Assembly President Ukrit Mongkhonnawin should discreetly check to find out whether Chatchai's idea has any support in the Privy Council.

Some leaders of the pro-democracy movement of students, academics and political parties did talk about petitioning His Majesty against the draft constitution, which gives excessive powers to the senators to be chosen by the NPKC chairman. But so far no such petition has been submitted. Waiting until after the National Assembly has passed the draft constitution would be too late.

If Chatchai feels so strongly about the whole thing, he can join the other pro-democracy leaders in drafting a petition and submitting it as soon as possible. Such an initiative could convince the National Assembly to abort the undemocratic draft and reproduce a more acceptable one as our new constitution.

Vietnam

Embassy Denies Instigating Khieu Samphan Attack

BK0412150291 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 4 Dec 91

[Text] Some foreign mass media reported that the demonstration to manhandle Khieu Samphan in Phnom Penh was led and instigated by a group of Vietnamese. Our embassy in Phnom Penh issued a statement clearly pointing out that:

1. This report is totally fabricated and ill-meaning.
2. This event is completely an internal affair of Cambodia.
3. Vietnam always respects the Paris agreement on Cambodia and welcomes the process of national reconciliation in Cambodia.

U.S. Response to Soviet, European Crises Viewed

BK0312144591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 25 Nov 91

[Unattributed QUAN DOI NHAN DAN article: "Embarrassment and Confusion Befalling the West"—date not given]

[Text] The radical debacles in East Europe and the Soviet Union during the past two years have brought about obvious exhilaration to many political science institutes in the West. It is natural that not a few in this part of the world of opposite ideological concepts were surprised and stunned by these swiftly developing events, especially the unprecedented collapse of the socialist state in the Soviet Union after the 19 August incident. For these people, the bipolar war in the world has ended. However, after the downfall of the Soviet bloc that adhered to the old model, new issues of acutely complex, adventurous, and challenging natures have emerged against the background of the fallen model. This has caused concern by politicians in the West, thus their exhilaration has been tattered and replaced with worry and confusion.

Not long ago, all of Europe seemed to be lulled by the impression of safety at the end of the cold war; they are now obsessed by the phantoms of past violence and chaos. They have now realized that once the ideological battle receded, it was not at all easy to reestablish a new world order in Europe. During the past several months, all of Europe has repeatedly experienced countless incidents of violence in various forms. The most dangerous conflicts, however, are those stemming from issues related to racism, borderlines, and sovereignty. Many flashpoints have arisen in republics of the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, and possibly in many other countries. The Czech and Slovak Federal Republic is being torn apart by the increasingly acute conflict between the Czechs and Slovaks that has prompted President Havel to warn of the danger of a disintegrating federal state. People have now realized that the vacillation of rules and principles of the old order is tantamount to releasing extremist elements of all types from restrictions to carry out their activities. The West has now realized that their magic stick, despite its supernatural nature, is not able to control these elements.

The bloodbath civil war in Yugoslavia during the past four months has claimed tens of thousands of lives. In Croatia alone, more than 10,000 poeple were killed and 22,000 more wounded. This is a scar of cruelty in Europe in the post cold-war period. This civil war is likely to spread beyond the boundary of Yugoslavia and possibly expand into an international war. The West has expressed its concern over and has intervened in this issue, but has attained no concrete results.

The recent armed conflicts in Europe show that the situation in this continent is no better, in term of safety, than in the period of East-West confrontation. Recent border wars and land disputes have posed against Europe the danger of being sunk in the quagmire of major wars like those of the past. Worthy of note is that no one can predict the serious consequences of a new map of Europe if it is allowed to be drawn according to the wishes of ambitious extremist forces.

At present, it can be said that almost all East European countries and many republics in the Soviet Union have experienced border conflicts, land disputes, and other differences with one another. There are also overt demands for reconsideration of many unresolved issues. The armed clashes in the Nagorno-Karabakh region lying between Armenia and Azerbaijan alone has caused great disturbances for the whole territory of the Soviet Union. Likewise, the civil war in Yugoslavia has shaken all of Europe and has become the main concern of that continent. Let us ask how serious the situation in Europe will be if dozens of armed conflicts, border wars, and land disputes occur at the same time in a continent that is heavily armed with the most modern and sophisticated weapons in the world.

During the booming period of socialism, the West was very fond of playing the card of inciting the spirit of independence and the rights of self-determination of various republics in the Soviet Union as well as nations in Eastern Europe. Now the West is worrying about the consequences of its own card.

The disintegration of the union structure in the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia has created many complicated issues and new dangerous situations that pose acute problems for the West. The chaotic situations, conflicts, and wars in these countries have obstructed the West from implementing their strategies in the post cold-war period. The new security mechanism in Europe directed by them is being seriously threatened and is likely to end up in stalemate.

A number of Western political observers have warned that it is very dangerous that the United States and the West continue their scheme to aid the disintegration of the Soviet Union. This is because no one can guarantee that the extremist forces in various republics—once their republics have separated from the Soviet Union—will scrupulously and seriously cooperate with the West.

For several months now, they have expressed special concern about a request for dividing nuclear weapons among the republics, because they could not rule out the possibility of these weapons of mass destruction falling into the hands of extremists. U.S. military observers have warned that 27,000 nuclear weapons remain in the Soviet Union, enough to wipe out the United States within 30 minutes.

Furthermore, Russia's new position and role under the leadership of Yeltsin, who is regarded by the West as a high caliber politician, have not only failed to give other Soviet republics peace of mind but have also caused concern for many Western countries. The West has always had to face these two questions: Who actually has power in the Soviet Union? And whom should they support, Yeltsin or Gorbachev?

Chaos in the Soviet power system has caused the West to behave like a gambler who just stays there and watches instead of putting all his money in the game. A U.S. diplomat said: In the past, we dealt with one person. Now, we have to deal with fifteen people.

Officials in Washington need to continue to cooperate with the central Soviet Government to resolve international problems and global issues in accordance with U.S. strategic schemes. They fully understand that only the central government is in a position to carry out such a task. In the meantime, they have remained very indecisive when it comes to helping the Soviet Union push back an economic disaster for fear that if the union ceases to exist, it is unknown who would shoulder the responsibility for resolving the consequences arising from such an event.

Due to the sensitiveness of Soviet-U.S. relations, and particularly because of the need to meet its global interests, the United States still does not want to completely ignore the union and establish contacts with the republics.

Washington has to answer three perplexing questions concerning Soviet-U.S. relations.

First, in what way should the relations between the central government and the republics be balanced so as to consolidate the United States' immediate position without damaging its long-term interests?

Second, at the very moment when the Republican Party-led administration is busy making preparations for the race to the White House, Bush has been strongly criticized for attaching importance only to foreign affairs instead of concentrating efforts on resolving the urgent domestic problems facing the United States. Is the Bush administration bold enough to play the Soviet Union-East Europe game until the end?

Third, this is a very expensive game. In the past, the United States promised many times that if democracy, pluralism, and a multi-party system existed in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, it would not hesitate to provide the Soviet Union and Eastern European countries with aid for reconstruction. Now, politically speaking, the situation in this region has developed according to U.S. expectations. Nevertheless, the United States is not very enthusiastic about opening its wallet. The reason is because now that the United States has to cope with its own financial crisis and budget deficit. How can it find enough money to pour into the Soviet Union and East Europe?

In response to the urgent calls for aid to the Soviet Union, Washington said: The United States is not sleeping over a heap of gold. The $1.5 billion-credit that the United States said it would give the Soviet Union to purchase grain and food supplies will be transferred to the 12 republics in three stages by April 1992.

The credit, which is the most substantial amount of aid that the United States has ever reserved for the Soviet Union in the past few years, is equal to one-tenth of the amount of aid that the Soviet Union proposed to the G-7 that it needs to survive the coming winter.

The fate of the Soviet bloc in the post-communist era remains an unanswered question. Western countries want to answer this question through urgent policies and measures. In the meantime, they have not yet extricated themselves from indecisiveness and embarrassment, being caught by a perplexing problem resulting from the contradictions of ambitions and actual capabilities.

Moreover, they are divided by their personal schemes against this region. Therefore, they still cannot formulate a uniform policy aimed at leading Europe out of a new storm area. After a major upheaval, countless problems remain in an important part of this continent, and they may lead to new contradictions and conflicts.

Washington is reminding itself of the need to exert self-restraint following its victory. The British magazine THE ECONOMIST said: This is the same kind of feeling that a mother reserves for her newborn baby. However, the mother must continue to endure the pain of labor. The French magazine LE PEN had this remark to make: The bed that the U.S. President is sleeping in is that of a new yet unstable world.

Asian Health Consortium Meets in Hanoi 3 Dec

BK0312155191 Hanoi VNA in English 1427 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 3—The 17th meeting of the Asia Pacific Academic Consortium of Public Health (APACPH) was opened here yesterday under the co-chairmanship of Prof. Pham Song, Vietnamese minister of public health, and Prof. J. Arozgrly [name as received], president of APACPH.

It was attended by 32 professors, 8 doctors, academics from ten countries in Asia and the Pacific, and representatives of WHO, [word indistinct], UNDP [United Nations Development Program] and UNFPA [United Nations Population Fund].

The participants discussed measures to strengthen regional and interregional cooperations in many fields. On this occasion an agreement on public health cooperation for the 1991-95 period between the School of Public Health, the University of Hawaii, the United States, and the Public Health Department of the Hanoi Medical College, was signed here yesterday by Prof. J. M. Michael, representing the School of Public Health of the University of Hawaii, and Ngo Van Hop, head of the external relations department of the Ministry of Public Health.

Nong Duc Manh at Seminar on SRV-Lao Relations

BK0312153191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] This morning the Hanoi University and the Embassy of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] jointly held a scientific seminar under the theme 'Vietnam-Laos Relations and Laos-Vietnam Relations, and the Land and People.'

Comrade Nong Duc Manh, member of the Party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Vietnam-Laos Friendship Association, and Comrade Khamphet Phengmeuang, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the LPDR, attended and addressed the seminar.

Over the past half century and more, faced with the objective requirements of history and based on the strategic farsightedness of President Ho Chi Minh, the special Vietnam-Laos and Laos-Vietnam relations of friendship and solidarity came into being, developed, and became a factor of success in the revolutionary undertaking of each country. Under this spirit, all professors and scientific cadres of the university engaged in an extensive study of various key issues. This was not only aimed at reviewing the time-honored process of history and the special relations between the two countries, but was also of vital importance to the task of providing education in terms of ideology and sentiment for present and future generations.

Army Paper Marks Laos' 16th National Day

BK0312110391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 2 Dec 91

[From the press review for 2 December]

[Text] QUAN DOI NHAN DAN today carries on page 1 an editorial entitled "The Gloriously Victorious Stage of the Multiethnic People of Laos." The editorial says:

Over the past 16 years, united around the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] headed by esteemed Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan and with their tradition of steadfastness, the multiethnic people of Laos have surmounted numerous difficulties and ordeals and scored many great achievements in all fields. The administration at all levels has become increasingly firm and strong while the people's armed forces, which have developed extraordinarily, have been able to firmly defend national independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity and maintain political security and social order and safety throughout the country.

The economy of Laos has been stabilized and promoted in certain aspects. Grain output has doubled, from 665,000 metric tons in 1976 to nearly two million metric tons in 1991. Compared with 1990, gross national income in 1991 has increased by 16 percent and goods export by 35 percent. Meanwhile, the communications and transport networks have expanded and marvelous progress has been made in the cultural, medical, and educational fields.

After reviewing the new external and internal policies of Laos, the editorial continues:

Our people and army hilariously rejoice at the achievements of the fraternal people of Laos. We are happy to note that the loyal and brilliant Lao-Vietnamese solidarity—molded by President Ho Chi Minh and painfully preserved by the parties and people of the two countries—is being increasingly consolidated and constantly developed.

We are proud of the special friendship and militant solidarity between Vietnam and Laos, which have been tested by time as a valuable tradition and a source of strength and encouragement for the peoples of the two countries in their national construction and defense.

Now as in the past, our party, state, and people pledge to do all they can to firmly maintain and make the typically loyal relations of friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Laos last forever like the imposing mountains and rivers of the two fraternal countries.

Vo Van Kiet Meets Brunei Communications Minister

BK0212130991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, 28 November, at the Presidential Palace, Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet received Zakaria bin Sulaiman, Minister of Communications of Brunei, who is currently on a visit to our country for the signing of an agreement on airline cooperation between Vietnam and Brunei. Attending the reception was Bui Danh Luu, minister of communications and transport.

Chairman Vo Van Kiet warmly welcomed the visit to Vietnam by His Excellency Zakaria bin Sulaiman and members of his delegation in their capacity as representatives of the people of Brunei—a close Southeast Asian neighbor with enormous natural resources and a per-capita income ranked among the highest in the world—considering it a fine demonstration of the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Brunei.

The chairman asked Minister Zakaria bin Sulaiman to convey his kind regards and best wishes to the King, government, and people of Brunei. He also affirmed that the government and people of Vietnam will do all they can to consolidate and develop the relations of friendship and cooperation on the basis of mutual understanding and trust.

Minister Zakaria bin Sulaiman thanked the chairman and government of Vietnam for having created favorable conditions for his delegation to visit, and further their understanding of, the land of President Ho Chi Minh, as well as to negotiate the signing of the agreement on airline cooperation between the two countries. He said:

Although Vietnam's potential is great, investment has not yet been fully made to exploit it. At a time when the political situation in the region is being improved, Brunei, like other countries in Southeast Asia, can avail itself of this favorable opportunity to expand economic, scientific, and technical cooperation with Vietnam.

Vo Van Kiet Receives Japanese Businessmen 30 Nov

BK0312100391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] In the afternoon of 30 November at the Presidential Palace, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet warmly received Mr. (Araki), adviser of the Nissho Iwai Company and president of the Research Committee on Indochinese Economy of major Japanese companies. Many directors and economic specialists of (Sapec) and (Impec) companies of Japan were also at the reception. The Japanese were on a fact-finding mission on the possibility of oil and natural gas industry cooperation between Vietnam and Japan.

Mr. (Araki) presented to Chairman Vo Van Kiet the aspiration of Japanese oil and gas companies for comprehensive cooperation with Vietnam. He also expressed the wish of Nissho Iwai Company for cooperation with the Vietnam-Finland (Kengirawi) Joint Venture in producing fertilizer and exporting apatite. He stated that Japan highly regards cooperation with Vietnam in the oil and gas industry since Vietnam has great oil reserves and Japan has the proper technology, capital, and experience. Therefore, the two countries have thorough capabilities for efficient cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual trust. Mr. (Araki) affirmed that the Japanese Government is ready to provide financial assistance to Japanese oil and gas companies for efficient cooperation with Vietnam ranging from oil exploration and exploitation to refineries.

Chairman Vo Van Kiet welcomed cooperative intentions by Japanese oil and gas companies and companies of other industries with Vietnam. He stated that in the recent years, Vietnamese-Japanese cooperation has made some progress. However, because of some objective reasons, cooperation has not been as great as other countries in the region and it has not been up to the capacity, conditions, and aspirations of the two countries. The chairman mentioned the potential of broadening bilateral cooperation not only in the oil and gas industries but also in other economic industries as well. He also confirmed that Vietnam will develop and move forward by its own efforts and with cooperation and assistance from all countries, but Japanese technology, capital, and experience are badly needed in Vietnam. He stated that Vietnam is creating all conditions necessary for efficient cooperation between the two countries, and if slow action or only low-level cooperation takes place, that is not the fault of the Vietnamese side.

Joint-Soviet Oil Venture Fulfills Yearly Plan

BK0212081891 Hanoi VNA in English 0558 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 2—The Vietnamese-Soviet oil and gas prospection and exploitation joint venture had by Dec 1 grossed 3,570,000 tons of crude oil, up by one million tons compared with 1990 and fulfilling its 1991 plan 30 days ahead of schedule.

For the rest of the year it plans to top its yearly plan by 10 percent.

Women's Delegation Visits DPRK 21-30 Nov

BK0212152391 Hanoi VNA in English 1441 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 2—A delegation of the Vietnam Women's Union led by its vice president Truong My Hoa visited the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as guest of the Korean Democratic Women's Union from November 21 to 30.

The delegation was cordially received by Kim Song-ae, president of the host organization. The two sides spoke of the situation in their respective countries and discussed measures to strengthen the friendship and cooperation between the two women's unions. Ms Truong My Hoa, who is also secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, and her party were received by Vice President of the DPRK and member of the Political Bureau of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee Pak Song-chol.

While there, the Vietnamese guests visited a number of production, cultural, social establishments.

Vo Van Kiet Receives Outgoing Cuban Envoy

BK0312155091 Hanoi VNA in English 1528 GMT 3 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec.3—Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet today received Cuban Ambassador Armando Saucedo Yero who paid him a farewell visit before concluding his term of office in Vietnam.

On this occasion, the Cuban diplomat informed Chairman Vo Van Kiet of the success of the 4th Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba, the achievements in socialist construction in Cuba and difficulties his country is facing.

Chairman Vo Van Kiet highly appreciated the ambassador's contributions to the consolidation and development of the traditional friendship and the cooperation between Vietnam and Cuba.

Referring to the present situation in Cuba, Chairman Vo Van Kiet said:

"The Vietnamese people follow with special sympathy the development of the Cuban revolution. The Vietnamese Government and people firmly believe that the Cuban people, under the leadership of the Communist Party headed by Comrade Fidel Castro, will overcome all difficulties and continue to gain new achievements in building their socialist fatherlands".

Chairman Vo Van Kiet also affirmed that the Vietnamese people, a reliable friend and close comrade of Cuba, always stand by the Cuban people's side.

Defense Minister Greets Cuban Counterpart

BK0212143791 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 1 Dec 91

["Text" of SRV Defense Minister Doan Khue's greetings message to General Raul Castro Ruz, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba on Cuban Armed Forces Day—date not given]

[Text] Esteemed comrade minister: On the occasion of the 35th founding anniversary of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba, on behalf of the entire cadres and combatants of the Vietnam People's Army [VPA], and on my own behalf, I am pleased to convey our warmest greetings to you, comrade, and through you to all cadres and combatants of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba.

I wish the Cuban armed forces, under the leadership of the Communist Party of Cuba headed by esteemed Comrade First Secretary Fidel Castro, ever greater achievements in the cause of building and defending their Socialist Cuban Fatherland.

I wish the fraternal solidarity and friendship between our two peoples and armies consolidated and developed in every passing day.

I wish you, comrade minister, good health and many new achievements in your important duties, and happiness in your life.

Please accept, comrade, my respected salutations.

Greetings Sent to South African Communist Party

BK0312160991 Hanoi VNA in English 1528 GMT 8 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 3—The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPVCC] Monday extended warmest greetings to the 8th Congress of the South African Communist Party (SACP).

In its message addressed to the SACP Central Committee, the CPVCC highly praised the South African people's persistent struggle against the apartheid regime for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progess. It expressed the belief that the implementation of the resolutions of the SACP 8th Congress would contribute to abolishing the racist regime and building a unified and democratic South Africa.

The message continued: "The Communist Party and people of Vietnam always follow with deep sympathy and fully support your just struggle.

"May the solidarity and friendship betwwen the two parties and peoples of Vietnam and South Africa consolidate and constantly develop."

Leaders Send National Day Greetings to Romania

BK0312092891 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Text] On 29 November 1991, Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State sent a message of greetings to President Ion Illiescu. The message reads:

On the National Day of Romania, I send my best wishes to you and I wish the Romanian country to be prosperous and its people to be happy. I wish the friendship and cooperation relations of Vietnam and Romania to increasingly strengthen and develop for the interests of the two countries and for peace and social progress.

On 29 November 1991, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet sent a message of greetings to Romanian Prime Minister Theodor Dumitru Stolojan.

On the same day, Foreign Affairs Minister Nguyen Manh Cam also send a message of greetings to his counterpart Adrian Nastase.

Leaders Send National Day Greetings to SFRY

BK0312092491 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 29 Nov 91

[Text] On 26 November 1991, Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State sent greetings to Stipe Mesic, president of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yogoslavia [SFRY] on its 48th National Day.

On 26 November 1991, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet sent greetings to Ante Markovic, president of the SFRY Federal Executive Council.

On 26 November 1991, Chairman of the National Assembly Le Quang Dao sent greetings to his counterpart Slobodan Gligorijevic.

On the same occasion, Foreign Affairs Minister Nguyen Manh Cam also sent greetings to his counterpart Budimir Loncar.

Leaders Send National Day Greetings to Albania

BK0312064791 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Text] On 28 November, Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State, sent a message of greetings to Ramiz Alia, president of the Republic of Albania, on the country's 47th National Day. The message reads:

The Vietnamese people sincerely wish that the Albanian people quickly overcome difficulties, gradually improve their situation, and continue to construct their happy, prosperous country.

I believe that the traditional friendly relations and the existing cooperation between the Vietnamese and Albanian people will continue to strengthen and develop in the interests of the people in each country and for peace and social progress.

On 28 November, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet sent a message of greetings to Ylli Bufi, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania, on that country's 47th National Day. The message reads:

We believe that the Albanian people will overcome their current difficulties to continue moving their country on the path toward prosperity and progress. We wish that the friendly relations and traditional cooperation between the states and peoples of Vietnam and Albania will be increasingly strengthened and developed.

On 28 November, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam also sent a message of greetings to his counterpart, Muhamet Kapllani.

'Sources' Say Government To Privatize Companies

BK0412065891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0645 GMT 4 Dec 91

[By Andrew Sherry]

[Text] Hanoi, Dec 4 (AFP)—Vietnam will take another cautious step toward adopting capitalism next year with a privatization plan being examined this week by the Communist Party Central Committee, sources here said.

The plan calls for the sale of shares in dozens of public companies, beginning with provincial and district enterprises, according to an informed Vietnamese source.

Both foreign and Vietnamese investors will be eligible to buy the shares, but so-called strategic enterprises such as steelworks, power plants and railroads will not be put on the auctioneer's block.

"The state must keep the most important enterprises in its hands," the source said.

The "equitization" plan—as some Vietnamese economists prefer to call it—was worked out at a November 19-21 Council of Ministers meeting chaired by the country's reform-minded premier, Vo Van Kiet.

It is part of a new economic policy for 1992 that also calls for the slashing of subsidies to state enterprises in a bid to balance the budget, according to the official newspaper NHAN DAN.

The 1992 policy will be submitted for approval to the next session of the National Assembly due to start in mid-December, the paper said. But the policy was first being scrutinized by the powerful Central Committee, which is due to conclude Thursday an unpublicized 10-day closed-door session focusing largely on the economy, the informed source said.

The state will issue shares on an "experimental basis" in several dozen public companies starting on the provincial or district level, said the source, who has close ties to Vietnam's policymakers.

"If we get encouraging results, we'll generalize it" to hundreds of state-owned enterprises, he said.

Investors may be allowed to acquire full ownership of some firms, especially light industries. But Hanoi intends to retain control of heavy industry, transport and other key areas, the source said.

For example, if a state-owned steelworks is converted into a joint stock company to raise capital, a majority of the shares will be retained by the government or sold to other public companies.

Trading shares will be one of the duties of the Saigon Finance Co., a state-directed financial services firm founded last week in Ho Chi Minh City.

Vietnamese officials also say they plan to create a stock market here, though they have been unable to say when.

Despite these preparations, it remains to be seen whether investors will want to sink their money into Vietnam's capital-starved public enterprises, many of which have never been managed for profit.

"In a lot of those factories the equipment looks like it should be blown up and carted away, not counted as assets," a Western economic specialist said.

Promoters of the plan say, however, that it will give foreign investors a chance to tap into ventures like Ho Chi Minh City's Seaprodex Export Firm, which had 200 million dollars in sales last year.

Seaprodex has nontheless incurred a huge debt burden as a result of its rapid expansion over the last decade, analysts noted.

Vietnam says it has attracted around 2.5 billion dollars in foreign investment since starting to liberalize its economy in 1988. But while Hanoi has turned increasingly to free-market methods to solve its economic problems, it maintains that the communist party must keep a guiding role over the economy.

Ho Chi Minh City To Issue State Credit Bonds

BK0112151091 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Text] From 1 to 15 December, the Ho Chi Minh city branch of the State Treasury Department will issue state treasury credit bonds of 6-month duration with monthly interest of 4.5 percent.

These credit bonds will be sold to and collected from Vietnamese citizens of all strata in Vietnamese currency. Each person can buy one credit bond or more. The minimum price for one credit bond is 20,000 dong. There is no limit on the maximum price.

The state guarantees that repayment of these credit bonds will be made in full—both principal and interest—at one time on schedule, with the amount of interest being specified on the credit bonds.

Daily Examines Status, Role of State Economy

BK2711150191 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 1 Nov 91, pp 1, 4

[Article by Khong Doan Hoi: "State-Run Economy: Should Its Leading Role Be Reaffirmed or Should There Be Privatization?"]

[Text] The current actual status of ineffective business in many state-run installations that have incurred losses, poses a big question about the survival of their own and the state-owned economy to the general public. According to the viewpoints of many people, a "state-owned business" is synonymous with poor quality of commodities and services and with losses. As a result, its survival means that "inroads on its capital" are inevitable and its ability to compete is due to the various conditions and policies of unemployment benefits accorded to workers, low wage earners, and so forth. This situation gave rise to a view that once the market economy and resulting competition has been recognized, we should not raise the question of a leading role for the state-run economy. Some extremists have gone so far as to demand the privatization of all those economic installations.

Where are the ethics of the issue? Proceeding from the fact that not all state-run economic installations adopting the new mechanism will suffer losses and be inefficient, and from the premise that socialist orientations can become realities only when they are guaranteed by an economic installation of a socialist nature, our party has asserted that one of the fundamental guidelines for building socialism in our country is to develop the state-owned economy, making it become gradually the foundation of the national economy. The problem is how and by what means the state-owned economy will be developed so that it can assume the leading role.

Every social regime has its own special infrastructure and a commensurate suprastructure. The capitalist infrastructure is a production based on the private ownership of production means. Marxism-Leninism does not generally deny private ownership. Not only did they recognize that the private ownership of means of livelihood is a human right in all societies, Marx and Lenin further maintained that the relations of capitalist production under specific historical conditions had brought into play its superiority for quite a long time to promote the development of production forces and turn out a production volume "equal to all those turned out by previous societies put together." However, when studying the development process of the capitalist method, Marx discovered that the sociality and high standard of production forces would in a certain time become acutely contradictory and would tear up the tight vest of private ownership over production means in the capitalist production relations. This objective contradiction of the inevitable development of history would lead to a solution by the appearance of public ownership over production means in keeping with the boundless development capability of production forces: Socialism, after all, is a response to objective demands for liberating all material and moral potential from all restrictions to allow production to develop continually. Socialism is harmonious mutual support between production relations and production forces, which help each other develop. Nevertheless, we have only just stepped into the first stage of the period of transition to socialism which means that we have not completed socialist construction. Since our production forces are still poor and weak, the socialist production relations are in principle established only at the appropriate level. As a result, the intermingling of factors of different production relations is an inherent requirement of economic development. The point is that to firmly maintain socialist orientation, the "intermingling" must not be chaotic. In a multisectorial economy, public ownership is the base and material fulcrum for economic units and an economic guarantee for the national construction of our people who will not deviate from their chosen objectives.

Therefore, building a highly developed economy based mainly on public ownership over production means was considered by the seventh party congress a characteristic of socialism that our people are building.

In such a spirit, consolidating and developing the state-owned economy is a principle that we must firmly maintain. Yet, how shall we carry out this principle without relapsing into past mistakes? Renovation is mainly what we should do and the new deeds lie in the correction of past mistakes in our measures and steps, in our erroneous perception of the nature of the process to publicize and nationalize ownership without distinguishing nationalization from socialization and formal socialization from practical socialization. Now, proceeding from the viewpoint of practically socializing step by step production on the strength of standardizing the development of production forces to pave the way for production to develop, the process of building a state-owned economy will not take place in a widespread and forcible manner as it did before. Instead, effort will be concentrated only on key sectors and domains and vital business enterprises which are "economic conduits" such as major factories, banks; transportation networks; energy, trade, import and export enterprises; or installations that other economic sectors have no conditions for investing in and doing business. In this connection, the state economy has since the very beginning influenced somewhat the entire national economic life of the country to surge forward and be a tool of large-scale management of the state and take the leading role in the multisectorial economy by running business with socio-economic results in close combination with high labor productivity, by competing and rallying with and supporting other economic sectors, and not by "seizing the entire market for oneself" as before. With such a viewpoint on socializing production practically as mentioned above, many forms of a state-run economy will appear. Apart from those installations receiving total state investment, there might be state-run installations of the shareholding enterprise nature to attract individual, collective and foreign investments. The form of state-run shareholding enterprises (evidently, the state will get the major share) is likely to develop with every passing day.

It was a great success of the congress in asserting the aforementioned viewpoints to clearly reflect the principled renovation process. Yet, the important point is how to apply effectively these viewpoints to life. In this connection, rational measures and steps must be taken. In this spirit, many problems must be solved but the following ones are imminent:

First of all, we should rearrange the state-run economic domain on the basis of scientific classification according to different standardized systems. According to the seventh party congress, there are clearly two types of state-run economic installations inside and outside the key sectors and domains. Classification cannot be based merely on economic results. The economic results must be stressed in combination with the importance of products and goods turned out by a certain number of state-run enterprises. A certain number of enterprises might be operating with low economic results. However, from the above mentioned perspective, these enterprises might not necessarily be those to be dealt with immediately because social stability must be respected. The significance of this issue could be seen in a certain "crisis of rice" or materials. As a result, these enterprises should be consolidated by all means and in such a way to link social results closely to economic results. As for the remaining state-run economic installations, economic results will be the sole standard. It is impossible to continually waste materials, monetary assets, and manpower for those installations with no hope of being shored up. An accurate classification will create premises for shifting ownership and forms of business or for disbanding according to the viewpoint on ownership that whoever can utilize those useful facilities in the best interest of socialism will get them. Obviously, many forms will appear such as awarding contracts to collectivized workers, tenders for bidding, hiring, selling all or part of the assets to collectives or private individuals, forms of capitalist state, and so forth. Then, comes immediately the renovation of technology in state-run economic installations.

Second, the mechanism of both large-and small-scale management must be improved: We must reform institutions and improve the utilization of economic and financial tools. The most important point is to clearly separate the function of a representative owner from that of an actual owner in the matter of state ownership. This requires shifting state-owned economic units to the mechanism of independent business. In keeping with the economic viewpoint that business management can not be mixed up with state management, the state will perform the function of providing legal, financial, business and organizational guidance and conditions for state-owned enterprises, creating an environment for their survival and operation as far as it concerns law, psychology, information, and business, etc. It will supervise, control, and regulate the activities of state-owned enterprises through the instruments of taxation, pricing, and credit. The state will not intervene directly in the operations of state-owned enterprises.

In state-owned economic units, collectives of workers as actual owners of all the people's properties, who are assigned by the state to managerially control and use the assets in accordance with the business law and contracts, are responsible for making these assets grow and increase in number, for paying all expenses on their own, and for fulfilling all obligations to the state budget as prescribed by law.

Third, a fund must be established to help state-owned enterprises in the process of shifting to the busines mechanism, especially those installations whose products are important to the survival of the country and those installations turning out vital products. It is certain that no one will "envy" these installations because if state-owned enterprises do not shoulder the burden in these domains, the economy will become lame.

Fourth, we must select, organize and train socialist businessmen, those who know how to bring the positive aspects of capitalist business to bear. This is what our country in general and the state-run economy in particular need the most.

To sum up, we should firmly maintain our principle in renovation: To consolidate and develop the state-run economy, making it sufficiently strong and capable of assuming the leading role in the multisectorial economy. Yet, when implementing this principle, we should remember the following statement of a philosopher: It is easy to conquer the world when one rides on a good galloping horse, but it is more complex to dismount from a horse and control a powerful country.

The tasks ahead are really difficult and complex. However, we can not shrink back!

Conference on Maritime Natural Resources Opens

BK0212101191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Text] The third national scientific conference on maritime natural resources was opened in Hanoi this morning by the State Science Commission and the Vietnam Institute of Sciences.

During the past 10 years, sea survey and research work in our country has expanded from a regional scale to a nationwide scale covering the entire territorial waters and continental shelves, both in terms of exploration and data collection. As a result, we have been able for the first time to produce a sketchy but distinct picture of natural resources in our country's territorial waters.

This has initially paved the way for valuable scientific research and application in support of socioeconomic development by various sectors and localities. It has also represented an important step in the improvement of research work, producing new changes and progress in research methods and techniques and helping to gradually develop the contingent of sea research and survey cadres.

However, sea survey and research work in our country is still affected by many limitations and weaknesses. This can be seen most clearly in the fact that the results obtained are still far from meeting the needs of economic development and national security and defense. Meanwhile, material and technical bases in support of this work remain generally very weak, and are deficient in quantity and poor in quality.

In its 3-day sitting, the third national scientific conference on maritime natural resources will discuss and set forth the orientations and tasks for sea survey and research in our country for the days ahead.

VNA Reports on Food Production in 1991

BK0112150191 Hanoi VNA in English 1415 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 1—Food output of Vietnam in 1991 is estimated at 21.4 million tons in paddy equivalent, of which south Vietnam accounts for 11 million tons, according to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry.

The deltas of the Red River and Mekong River, the two biggest rice growing areas of Vietnam, achieved nearly 17 million tons of paddy. Hau Giang Province in the Mekong River Delta chalked up nearly 2 million tons, an all-time high for any single province in the country. Five other provinces in the south and two provinces in the north—Ha Nam Ninh and Hai Hung—topped the one-million-ton mark.

Farmers in the north have completed the best ever autumn crop, harvesting 4.1 million tons of paddy on 1.3 million hectares, an increase of 14 percent and 1.7 percent respectively compared with the same crop a year earlier.

Southern Provinces' Agricultural Production Noted

BK0212141691 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Text] The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry recently summed up agricultural production in the southern provinces for 1991.

This year the rice acreage in the entire region is 3.747 million hectares, the average rice yield for all three crops is more than 3.5 metric tons per hectare, and the gross rice output is approximately 10.924 million metrtic tons.

Compared with the planned amounts, rice acreage has increased by 6.4 percent and rice output by 4 percent, while the average yield has decreased by 0.7 quintal per hectare due to natural calamities such as floods or flash floods and brown planthoppers. However, the gross output of rice—mostly from the winter-spring crop and summer-fall crop—has increased by 539,000 metric tons.

Committees Launch Anti-AIDS Campaign

BK0212053791 Hanoi VNA in English 0609 GMT 30 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 30—The National Anti-AIDS Committee and the Hanoi Anti-AIDS Committee on November 29 and 30 organized here meetings to launch anti-AIDS compaigns, responding to World AIDS Day-1991 themed 'Sharing the Challenge'.

Thousands of representatives of various public offices, organizations, schools, hotels...attended the functions.

Concrete measures were worked out to prevent and combat this killer disease.

Nong Duc Manh Attends Cao Bang Party Congress

BK2911105391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 26 Nov 91

[Text] On 25 November, Cao Bang completed its thirteenth second-round party congress. Comrade Nong Duc Manh, member of the party Political Bureau, and Hoang Duc Nghi, member of the party Central Committee and minister of mountain regions and nationalities, addressed the congress.

In its 1986-1990 term, the Cao Bang party committee led the party and ethnic minority people in the province implementing the renovation in a difficult socioeconomic situation of a border mountainous province.

The congress confirmed that Cao Bang's economic structure is a combination of forestry, agriculture, and industry in which the strong points are forestry, industrial trees, livestock, mining industry, and import-export service.

The province's tasks and targets in the next five years are to stabilize and develop its agricultural, forestry, and industrial production. In 1995, the province should be able to cover more than 50 percent of its provincial budget with local revenues. At the moment, the province only covers 33 percent of its budget.

The province aims at better fulfilling the needs on food, consumer goods, and cultural activities of its people.

Lam Dong Province Convenes Second-Round Congress

BK2911105191 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 27 Nov 91

[Text] The fifth second-round party organization congress of Lam Dong Province took place in Da Lat from 20-22 November. On behalf of the party Central Committee, Comrade Do Quang Thang, secretary of the party Central Committee and head of the party Central Committee Inspection Commission, attended and directed the congress.

Attending the congress were representatives of the various central departments and sectors, the Da Lat Infantry Academy, the comrade secretaries of the previous provincial party committees, many comrade veteran revolutionaries, and 321 outstanding delegates representing nearly 10,000 members of the local party organization.

The report asserted that over the past three years, the party organization and people of different ethnic groups in Lam Dong Province have overcome many difficulties and challenges and have had many important achievements in many fields.

The average economic growth rate has increased by 15-20 percent per year, including a rapid increase in the hectarage of long-term industrial crops. The multisectorial commodity economy has begun to develop. The movement for settled life and settled farming has benefited ethnic minority compatriots, thus contributing to stabilizing all aspects of social life in the province. Security and national defense work have helped maintain political stability and public safety and order in the southern part of the Western Highlands.

However, many shortcomings still exist in Lam Dong. No steady progress has been made on the economic front. The quality and efficiency of the economy are not high enough. There is a lack of close cooperation and mutual support among the industrial, agricultural, forestry, tourist, and service sectors. There is not enough employment opportunities for everyone. Many people are still affected by poverty. Generally speaking, the living conditions of ethnic minority compatriots and compatriots in the new economic zones remain very difficult.

The report set forth the objectives and tasks for the local party organization and people to fulfill in the next five years. Lam Dong has many strengths and good potential in industrial crops. In recent years, the investment in sericulture and coffee and tea planting has opened bright prospects. Speaking of Lam Dong, one must mention Da Lat city's tourist potential. Thanks to its geographical location and social conditions as well as its favorable weather conditions and scenic spots, Da Lat City has been regarded as one of the country's major tourist attractions. All sectors and echelons in Lam Dong should realize these strengths and seek ways to bring them into full play.

The congress elected the fifth provincial party organization executive body comprising 41 comrades. Comrade Nguyen Xuan Thu was reelected secretary of the provincial party committee.

Bui Thien Ngo at Security Force Party Congress

BK0312051391 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 28 Nov 91

[Text] On 26-28 November 1991, the security force of the Interior Ministry held its third second-round party congress. Comrade Bui Thien Ngo, member of the party Political Bureau and minister of interior, attended the congress.

Equipped with the views on renovation initiated by the sixth national party congress resolution, in the last two years the security force party committee has maintained and developed an active role in leading the force to satisfactorily complete its political duty by successfully protecting our leaders, the central offices of the party and state, and international guests. The party committee has also gradually improved to become stronger and more stable.

The reason for the party committee's success has been the absolute unity between the party and state and the respect paid to opinions expressed in discussions seeking better management.

Regarding its tasks in the next term, the party committee determined that it will lead all units to successfully protect our party and state leaders and central offices under all circumstances. It will strengthen its work to build the force to be strong in politics, ideology, and structure. At the same time, it will better perform its party building work, strictly dismissing any low quality, degenerative, or opportunistic party members.

On behalf of the Central Public Security Force and Ministry of Interior, Comrade Bui Thien Ngo hailed the efforts of the party committee and commanding unit of the security force in the last term. He also pointed out weaknesses that the party committee needs to overcome and outlined some tasks that cadres and soldiers of the force must perform successfully in the future.

Australia

Response to East Timor Incident Said 'Flawed'

BK0212075891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0750 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] Canberra, Dec 2 (AFP)—The slaughter of dozens of East Timorese people by Indonesian troops last month was part of a pattern rather than an isolated incident, Amnesty International asserted on Monday.

Amnesty's local campaign director Andre Frankovits told an Australian parliamentary inquiry that the human rights organisation had been documenting events like the November 12 massacre in the Santa Cruz cemetery in Dili since Indonesia took over East Timor 16 years ago.

"The Santa Cruz massacre was not simply an aberrant incident, but rather is consistent with a pattern of human rights violations that Amnesty International has been documenting for nearly 16 years," he said.

Frankovits also cast doubt on the Indonesian government's plans for an internal inquiry, saying it could not be fair, open or thorough.

The Australian government has said that its reaction to the killings will await the outcome of the inquiry, a position which Frankovits described as "fundamentally flawed."

"Is the Australian government seriously suggesting that those Timorese who were present at Santa Cruz cemetery on November 12 and who have themselves been victims of abuses by the Indonesian military will be willing to risk testifying?" he asked.

"The Australian response to the Santa Cruz massacre is fundamentally flawed," Frankovits told the Human Rights Sub- Committee of the Joint Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee.

Calling for independent investigations on the massacre under United Nations supervision, Frankovits said Australia "must give priority to effective and immediate protection for the East Timorese."

Australia, he said, should maintain contacts with Indonesia to make its concern known.

It should also seek to influence Japan, the United States and European nations to take a strong position supporting international mechanisms that would protect the East Timorese.

"There is a major leadership role for Australia in the attempt to achieve an appropriate resolution to the problems of East Timor," he said.

New Zealand

Premier Says Rainbow Warrior Incident 'Closed'

BK0212073091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0712 GMT 2 Dec 91

[Text] WELLINGTON, Dec 2 (AFP)—Prime Minister Jim Bolger hinted Monday that New Zealand also believes the issue of the French bombing of the Greenpeace vessel Rainbow Warrior in 1985 was now closed.

Speaking at a press conference here, he avoided being pinned down on whether New Zealand would continue with its plan to extradite a French agent currently in jail in Switzerland.

Gerald Andries, implicated in the bombing, was arrested last week under a five-year-old Interpol warrant and is being held in custody while New Zealand police prepare a case to put before a Swiss court, if the government decides to attempt to extradite him.

Bolger conceded Monday that at a state lunch here earlier this year for then French prime minister Michel Rocard he had said the issue was closed.

"Certainly the tenor of my speech was about the issue being behind us," he said.

When he was asked whether that was still his opinion, he replied: "It was my opinion then. We have since learned there were warrants outstanding that has re-opened it. That happens to be the truth of the matter at the moment."

In his speech at the same gathering, Rocard apologised to New Zealand for the affair.

Over the weekend, a French Foreign Ministry spokesman said Paris considered the issue closed. Bolger said Monday he had not seen that statement but accepted Wellington had held a similiar view.

"Most people in New Zealand and France would have believed the matter was concluded. That's a fair observation," he said.

But when he was asked whether he meant the government would recommend abandoning an extradition attempt, he replied: "You shouldn't jump to conclusions."

Bolger said a decision on whether to go ahead with extradition proceedings would rest with Justice Minister Doug Graham.

"I'm sure he'll make it on the basis of law. Whether he includes anything else in that determination I don't know. I can't take you any further," he said.

Meanwhile in an interview with Radio New Zealand, former minister of justice Martyn Finlay questioned Monday whether Andries could get a fair trial here.

He said whatever happened the issue was "shot right through with political awareness."

"For my part I think there will probably be considerable difficulty in effecting an extradiction.

"After all, there are a number of grounds upon which extradition may be denied, one is that court asked to extradite, or the country asked to extradite is not satisfied that a fair trial could be entertained in the country to which the person is extradited to.

"The amount of public viewing on this thing is so rife a good argument could be mounted to the effect that it is going to be difficult to get an, to use the word of the law, an indifferent person, somebody who has not prejudged the issue."

In 1973-74, Finlay led the New Zealand delegation to the International Court of Justice in its case against French atmospheric nuclear testing in the South Pacific, which was won by New Zealand.

Papua New Guinea

Premier on Peacekeeping Force for Bougainville

BK0112065891 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 1 Dec 91

[Text] Papua New Guinea Prime Minister Rabbie Namaliu says a multinational peacekeeping force could arrive in Bougainville some time next year. He says this would be one outcome of the establishment of new authorities across Bougainville. The members would be elected by villages and would help coordinate the restoration of goods and services to the island.

Speaking to reporters in Port Moresby, Mr. Namaliu said a peacekeeping force would play a mediating role. But at the moment he said the deployment of such a force was not being discussed, and in some areas, such as on Buka Island, it was not seen as necessary.

Under the Honiara Peace Declaration signed by the PNG Government and Bougainville separatists last January, Port Moresby promised to send in a multinational team to keep peace on the island and to supervise the restoration program. But, Mr. Namaliu said the multinational force would become a matter for negotiation once the new authorities had been established.

Vanuatu

Francophone Minority Party Claims Election Win

BK0412093191 Hong Kong AFP in English 0846 GMT 4 Dec 91

[By Patrick Decloitre]

[Text] Port Vila, Dec 4 (AFP)—The Pacific nation of Vanuatu was on the brink Wednesday of having a government led by members of its French-speaking community for the first time in 11 years of independence.

Officials at the headquarters of the Union of Moderate Parties (UMP), which ran for office promising to restore the country's bilingual system, claimed to have won 20 of the 46 seats in parliament in Monday's general election.

A police spokesman said UMP officials applied in writing Wednesday for permission to stage a victory parade through Port Vila.

Police commander Louis Sahe said no party would be allowed to hold marches without first asking the government, and permission would be given only after seven days, the spokesman said.

With votes counted in all but two seats, an unofficial tally by party officials put the UMP four short of an outright majority, thus ensuring that Vanuatu would have a coalition government.

The secretary general of the UMP, Petre Malsungai, told AFP [AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE] that his party was not afraid of forming a coalition, but said its choice of partner could be decided only by the party's national council.

Arithmetic dictates that the UMP link up with one of three parties led by former allies within the Vanuaaku Pati (VP), which brought the former Anglo-French condominium of the New Hebrides to independence in 1980 and has ruled it ever since.

Diplomats here said they believed the likeliest combination was with the faction of the VP led by outgoing prime minister Donald Kalpokas, which is believed to have won 10 seats in parliament.

Kalpokas took over as prime minister in September after Walter Lini—the nation's leader since independence—was forced to resign on a vote of no-confidence.

Lini's newly formed National United Party (NUP) did better in the general election than many observers had expected, taking nine seats; the Melanesian Progressive Party (MPP) under Lini's one-time lieutenant Barak Sope has won four.

Party headquarters denied reports that the UMP had already made contact with other parties, specifically with the MPP.

Similar denials were made by VP officials.

The man most likely to become prime minister after parliament reconvenes on December 16 is the former UMP president, Maxime Carlot.

Two-fifths of the population—which totalled 140,154 at the census five years ago and is now believed to exceed 150,000—speak French as well as the vernacular Bislama; three-fifths speak English and Bislama.

But the civil service and government is dominated by English speakers and the francophone minority complain that their language has been neglected in schools and by the administration since independence.

The best educated among them, such as Carlot, say they had to learn English as well as French to get on, while few anglophones also speak French.

In addition to restoring the linguistic imbalance, the UMP's election manifesto pledged to relax the immigration laws to make it easier for foreigners to become citizens of Vanuatu.

It also promised to introduce free health and education and set up a television network. But how this would be done in a country which has no income taxes was not explained.

The election results still have to be confirmed by the electoral commission, and that is unlikely before the end of the week because of the remoteness of some of the 80-odd islands in the Y-shaped archipelago.

It is not impossible that the UMP will end up with more than 20 seats, since it is considering legal challenges to several of its opponents, among them Lini's sister Hilda, elected on a NUP slate in Port Vila.

The UMP alleges that Hilda Lini infringed the electoral law by continuing to campaign after the polls closed.